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Archeological Excavation at the Site of Williamson's Fort of 1775, Holmes' Fort of 1780, and the Town of Cambridge of 1783-1850's

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Archeological Excavation at the Site of Williamson's Fort of 1775, Holmes' Fort of 1780, and the Town of Cambridge of 1783-1850's

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ARCHEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AT THE SITE OF
WILLIAMSON'S FORT OF 1775, HOLMES' FORT OF 1780,
AND THE TOWN OF CAMBRIDGE OF 1783-1850'S

by

Stanley South

Rms 18

and

EXPLORATORY ARCHEOLOGY AT THE SITE OF THE 1776 FORT
AROUND THE TOWN OF NINETY SIX, AND CRUGER'S FORT OF 1780

with

SUGGESTIONS FOR INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT AT NINETY SIX

and

PLANS FOR THE 1972 EXCAVATION SEASON AT THE TOWN OF NINETY SIX

Institute of Archeology and Anthropology
University of South Carolina
April, 1972

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INTRODUCTION

by Robert L. Stephenson

A systematic, long-range plan for archeological exploration of the several forts, towns, and other features at Ninety Six, South Carolina, were made in the early months of 1970 by the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina in conjunction with the Star Fort Historical Commission. A five-year master plan for archeological research and development was prepared by the Institute and approved by the Commission's Project Director, Mr. W. Bruce Ezell. This master plan was developed around a five-phase outline with one phase to be carried out in each of the five years.

The first phase was an exploratory excavation designed to reveal as many of the specific archeological sites at Ninety Six as possible in order to provide an overall view of the total potential of this complex of historic sites. This phase of the project was successfully carried out in the spring and fall of 1970.

The second phase of the plan was designed to reveal the outline and features of the Holmes' Fort of 1780, the west bastion of the British fortifications around the town of Ninety Six, and any information possible about Williamson's Fort of 1775 and the town of Cambridge built on the site of both Williamson's and Holmes'

* Forts after 1783. This phase of the plan was successfully carried

out in June and July, 1971, and a report of this work is included herein.

The third phase of the plan consisted of excavation at the jail, the blockhouses and fortifications, and the town of Ninety Six itself. This phase was anticipated for the spring and summer of 1972. The fourth phase of the plan included the excavation of the several fortifications and other features at Gouedy's trading establishment of the 1750's and 1760's to the south of the other sites. This investigation was planned for 1973. The fifth phase of the plan involved the excavation of the Star Fort, the most significant and complicated phase of the plan, and the most expensive.

Involved throughout this five-phase plan was the necessity to develop and interpret the archeological features, being revealed through the excavations, as full-scale exploratory exhibits on the historic sites. Parapets discovered archeologically and confirmed by contemporary documents were to be rebuilt by contractors under contract to the Star Fort Historical Commission, as were palisade fortifications to be replaced in the original ditches that had been discovered and mapped archeologically. Throughout these interpretive restorations, direction would be provided to the contractors by the archeologist on the site. If accurately done in accordance with the archeology revealed in the ground and supported by contemporary documentation, these restorations would provide ideal, visual interpretations of the historic features for the benefit of the visiting public. Completion of the archeology in each area of

the site complex would be followed immediately by the contractors carrying out this part of the development while the archeologist was still on the site to direct the contractor's work. This timed sequence would minimize the cost as the restoration could be done while the excavations were still open, thus, eliminating any re-digging for restoration. It would also assure the maximum accuracy of interpretation as the archeologist would be constantly at hand to direct the work.

Long-range planning such as this was possible as a result of an \$8,000 initial grant from the Commission for the exploratory phase of the work and of the availability of a Capital Improvements Fund of \$150,000. The latter had been provided to the Commission for research and development through the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism in 1968 from a state bond issue. The initial \$8,000 had been provided by the Commission from other funds on hand. The second phase of the plan was carried out with a grant of \$20,000 from the Capital Improvements Fund in 1971 in accordance with a Memorandum of Agreement between the Commission and the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology.

In the spring of 1972 details of the third phase of the plan were worked out in anticipation of excavation of critical areas of the town of Ninety Six and its fortifications with a budget of \$27,264. The proposal for this work and plans for the 1972 season are included in the latter part of the present report. At the
* time of completion of the detailed plans for the 1972 work, the

Institute was advised that funds anticipated for this research and development had been otherwise expended and that, for the time being, there were no funds available.

This constitutes a severe blow to the overall, five-year plan for research and development of the historically significant complex of sites at Ninety Six. The plan was devised to accommodate completion of the historical interpretation of Ninety Six in time for the opening of the American Bicentennial. With a delay of even one year in the funding for the work, the final two years of the project will have to be accelerated to allow three systematic years of work to be done in two or the completion of the project will be delayed into the second year of the Bicentennial. Even this projection is based upon the anticipation that adequate funds will become available with only a one-year delay. There is, though, at the moment, no firm assurance of this.

To discontinue research here, or even to delay it, is a most serious retrogression of the far-sighted view of the understanding of our American heritage that has been so admirably demonstrated by everyone concerned with this project as well as by those who have been concerned with other historical projects throughout the state. It is all too well known that the part played by the southern states in the founding of our nation and in the decisive engagements of the American Revolution have never been adequately covered in our history books nor interpreted to the American people. The tremendously significant, even in some instances decisive,

actions that took place in this area during Colonial and Revolutionary War times is barely known to the schoolboy or the public. One of the reasons for this is lack of knowledge of the details of some of these events. Archeological research combined with detailed documentary research is the most effective way to correct this shortcoming in American historical knowledge.

The sites at Ninety Six, along with those at Camden and elsewhere in the state, contain the most significant details of this period. It is through full excavation of these sites that the full impact of the part played by the whole southern region of the country can be developed and our heritage be understood in proper perspective. The complex of sites at Ninety Six has more potential for this understanding, perhaps, than any other in the south matched only, perhaps, by its sister sites at Camden. Many other sites in South Carolina, and in other southern states, have much to contribute to this understanding, but none are so thoroughly packed with undisturbed pages of history beneath the surface of the ground as are these. Major events took place here and the evidence for those events lies virtually undisturbed in the ground, little damaged by the advance of modern civilization.

The five year plan for archeological research and development at the sites of Ninety Six must not be allowed to become of only academic interest. This year of delay is a severe blow. It must not be allowed to become a death knell. A separate section in the latter part of this report deals specifically with the importance

of long-range planning for this kind of research. The reader is urged to consider fully the guideline suggested there.

This report outlines the goals and accomplishments of the project carried out at Holmes' and Williamson's Forts in the summer of 1971 and, by means of photographs and maps, presents a plan view of the archeological features discovered. An analysis of the artifacts recovered and the stratigraphic and horizontal context relative to the artifacts will be covered in a separate report to be completed later. A report on exploratory excavation conducted on the site of the town of Ninety Six is also included here.

The second phase of the Ninety Six Project began in the field on June 7, 1971, and continued through June 30 under the direction of Stanley South, Archeologist. The crew consisted of Assistant Archeologist Richard Polhemus, who supervised the collection of data and maintained provenience control of the artifacts; Assistant Archeologist Steven Baker, who was in charge of the Cambridge cellar excavation and the camp logistics; Crew Chiefs Lloyd Chapman, John Jameson, and Alan DeVorse; and a regular crew of 23 men plus a crew of 25 boys from the Greenwood County Office of Economic Opportunity. In addition two graduate students, Randy Best and Lee Boyle from the University of South Carolina, commuted from Columbia during the first summer school semester to obtain course credit in the history department toward graduate degrees in history. The capable cook, Mattie Carroll, kept the crew well fed throughout the project.

The primary goal of this second phase of the project was to reveal the archeological features representing the human activity on and around the sites of Holmes' and Williamson's Forts on the hill overlooking the town of Ninety Six, to record these features, and to interpret them in the light of the documentary data relating to the site. It was, at first, assumed that the evidence of Holmes' Fort would be abundant, but that the evidence for Williamson's Fort would be very ephemeral. It was also known that the post-1783 town of Cambridge also overlapped the same location, and it was assumed that some evidence of that occupation would be found in the ground. The primary effort, then, was focused on the excavation of Holmes' Fort with secondary attention aimed at Williamson's Fort and Cambridge. As the excavation developed, it soon became apparent that considerable evidence of both Williamson's Fort and Cambridge was revealed and throughout the project all three occupations received almost equal attention.

Since the site has been plowed for at least a century, it was expected that the topsoil, or plow zone, would contain a mixture of artifacts of all periods. This was, of course, found to be true, and the plow zone was thus considered somewhat expendable in terms of artifact content. Outlining the intrusive features in the sub-soil and isolating the artifacts from them was the primary objective. These artifacts, well identified as to provenience, would be far more useful for temporal identification of the features than would those from the disturbed and mixed zone of plowed soil.

With these objectives in mind, intensive excavation of this segment of the Ninety Six Project began as the second phase of the long range project. It was not known at the time that this was to prove to be the final archeological project for some time to come.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Bruce Ezell, representative for the Star Fort Historical Commission, for his research assistance throughout the project thus far, for his help with logistics, and his extreme interest. Thanks are also due Bruce for allowing the camp for the expedition to be set up on his property.

I would like to thank Steve Baker, Assistant Archeologist for the project, for setting up camp, acting as logistics manager, and for supervising the archeological excavation of the Cambridge cellar.

Thanks are due Crew Chiefs Lloyd Chapman, John Jameson, and Alan DeVorse for their important roles of managing the crews on various parts of the site. I would also like to thank Mike Hartley and Lee Atwater for managing the 25-man crew from the Office of Economic Opportunity who were employed by the Star Fort Historical Commission to assist with the excavation. David Johnston also served well as supervisor of the back hoe operations on the site.

I would also like to acknowledge the valuable assistance of Richard Polhemus, Assistant Archeologist in charge of data recording, for his important contribution to data collection. Leonard Henry

and David Barton were valuable assets in assisting with the drawing of profiles of features.

Thanks are due Maryjane Rhett, Judy McClung, and Dianne Maroney for typing and for assistance in preparation of the report, and Gordon Brown, staff photographer, for preparing the photographs included in this report.

A special acknowledgement is made to my drafting assistant, John Jameson, who drafted several of the maps included in the report and assisted in transit work on the site.

The administrative direction of the project was successfully handled by Dr. Robert L. Stephenson, Director of the Institute, who acted as advisor for the undertaking, and who wrote the Introduction.

I would like to thank Mr. Will Henderson for supplying the project with a water wagon, on occasion, for wetting down the site so excavation could be undertaken. Thanks are also due the Mayor of Ninety Six, Dr. O. H. Thomas, and the firemen of the Ninety Six fire department for volunteering their firetruck on numerous occasions for the same purpose, wetting down the site to make excavation possible.

I would like to especially acknowledge the consultation of Harold Peterson, Chief Curator of the National Park Service, who visited the site and conferred on the interpretation of the military features, providing valuable support for the interpretations from the archeological data.

Thanks are expressed to Janson Cox, Chief Historian for the State Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism for permission to use sections of the "Proposed Policy for South Carolina State Historic Parks and Sites".

EXCAVATION METHOD

The Holmes' Fort site was explored with slot trenching in 1970, and an outline of the hornwork type fort was drawn from this exploratory survey. In the fall of 1970 a machine was used to strip the plowed soil from the west area of the fort, but weather conditions had forced excavation to be postponed until 1971. Details of these projects have been described in previous reports. The historical data relating to the Holmes' Fort site has been also outlined in a previous report (South 1971).

The plowed soil zone was from eight to ten inches in depth, and this was removed to allow the undisturbed subsoil and the intrusive features in it to be seen. The plowed soil was removed with a large earth moving machine with a ten-foot wide smooth cutting blade and was equipped with chain driven lifting blades for pulling the excavated dirt into the bed of the machine. This allowed the maximum removal of plowed soil with the minimum amount of disturbance of the ground. The entire area to be examined was lowered an inch or so at a time so that lowering of the grade of the site could be carried out uniformly and gapping or unevenness could be avoided. Once the undisturbed subsoil level was reached, the machine was stopped in that area and moved over to begin a new section while a small motor grader gave a final dressing to the surface of the subsoil. At this point, members of the archeological crew were brought in and careful

shovel schnitting or skimming of the subsoil was carried out using rounded shovels that had had the ends removed, with the remaining blade making a most effective cutting edge for the hard, red Davidson clay loam of the site (Fig. 1). This was the procedure used to reveal the archeological features on the site.

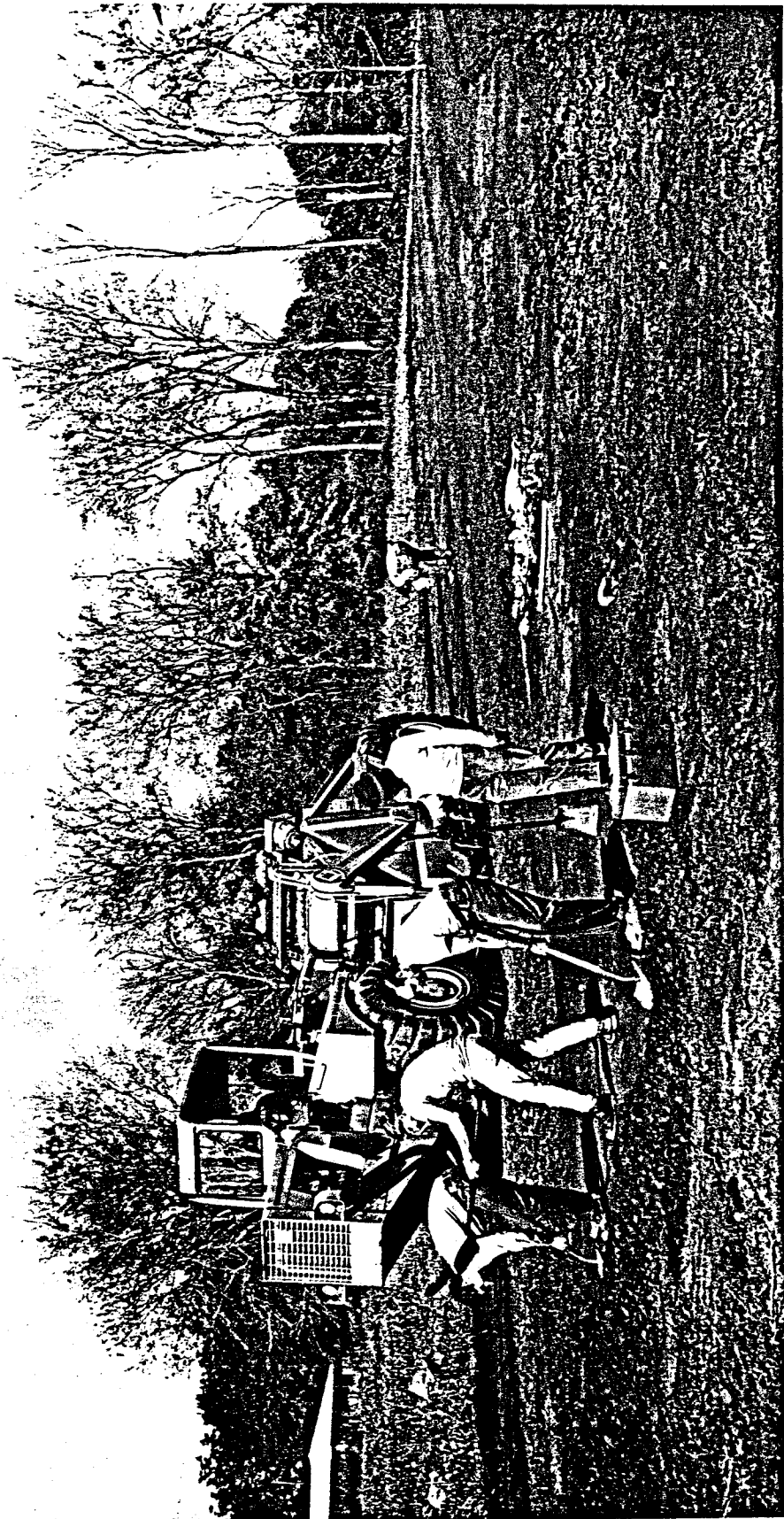
Dark red Davidson clay loam is located on the site of Holmes' Fort, and the lighter red, mica bearing Cecil clay is found on the lower elevation where the ruins of the town of Ninety Six are located (Lesh, Hendrickson, et al 1929). The Davidson soil area is known as "the grain belt of Greenwood County."

Davidson clay loam is locally known as "push land", or "red heavy clay land", and it differs from Cecil clay loam in having a firm but friable brownish-red or reddish-brown rather heavy clay loam surface soil 6 or 8 inches thick. The subsoil extends to a depth ranging from 36 to 48 inches and consists of dark-red or maroon firm smooth brittle clay which is almost free from grit or sand particles (Lesh, Hendrickson, et al 1929: 7, 18-19).

This Davidson clay loam has a tendency to crack in dry weather, forming large blocks about one foot square surrounded by cracks. These can sometimes be seen when

Figure 1

Schmitting Crew at Work, with Machine in the
Background Removing Plowed Soil Zone from the Holmes'-
Williamson Fort Site.

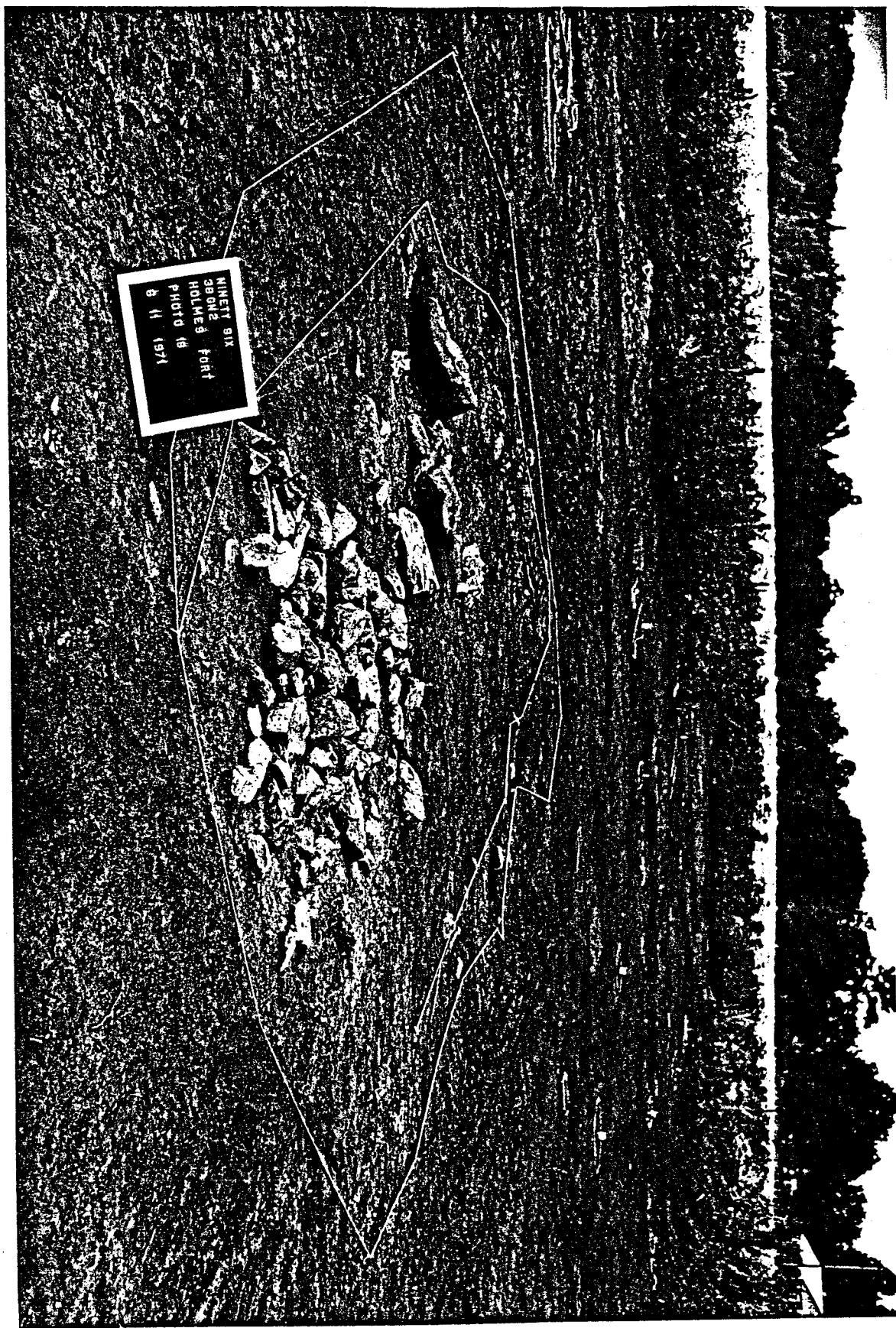


walking through a plowed field on which crops are growing. From the archeological profiles these cracks could be seen to extend to a depth of 18 or more inches below the subsoil junction with the plowed soil (Fig. 6, 7, 9). This characteristic of the soil required that constant watering of the ground had to be carried out in order for the ground to stay wet enough for archeological work to be carried out. This was done through an agreement with the town of Ninety Six which furnished a firetruck and supplied the project with 1,000 gallons of water almost daily in dry weather. If it had not been for this cooperation from the Ninety Six officials the project would have accomplished much less work at the Holmes' Fort site. Mr. Henderson also helped with the water supply, pulling onto the site a 1000-gallon water tank to be used as needed for wetting down small areas. A water pump was installed in the creek at the bottom of the hill and this was kept running constantly throughout the project, furnishing a small stream of water for wetting a small area at a time. Without such water sources, or a rainy season, the Davidson soil cannot be archeologically investigated in the manner undertaken in this project.

Once an area is wet thoroughly and allowed to soak for awhile a crew of 10 to 20 best shovel men would be positioned in a line and gang-schutting would begin. The clay is so hard that a few minutes in-place rest break must be called for the crew every ten

Figure 2

The Outline of Feature 77 marked with String,
Thought to be the Location of a Stable of the Town
of Cambridge.



minutes. Sometimes it is necessary to go back over the same area again in order to clearly and cleanly reveal the features in the subsoil matrix. The Davidson soil is such that there is little contrast between the undisturbed subsoil and the intrusive features, so that in dry weather the disturbances cannot be read at all. In fact, shortly after the features are exposed and photographed, the moisture has left the ground, and the features soon become unreadable. Because of this, it was necessary to assign a man to the job of putting nails around the edge of each feature and then fastening a string around these in order to mark the position of each intrusion (Fig. 2, 4).

As each area was schnitted clean to reveal the features (post-holes, pits, ditches, trenches, burials) a transit was used to shoot the angles, and distances were taped to record the position of each feature. These figures were later transcribed to make the maps included in this report (Fig. 14-19). The basic reference points for the transit mapping are two pipes designated as Reference Points 24 and 25. These reference points were positioned in relation to a zero point which is a large nail in the root of a tree located to the south of the Star Fort Redoubt. The entire Ninety Six complex of sites is tied together with these reference points rather than with the traditional grid system. Any two of these pipes can be used to establish a grid system on various areas of the site as is most convenient to the particular ruin being excavated. With the two reference pipes for the Holmes' Fort Site being located at the edge

Figure 3

The String-marked Fortification Ditch of Holmes' Fort, with the Intrusive Features of the Town of Cambridge Property Lines.



of the area, instead of a grid designated by pipes all over the site, there is a greater freedom of movement for machines and men without the grid getting in the way of moving dirt. Once the topsoil was stripped from the site, seven new reference pipes were established from which angles and taped measurements were taken in various areas of the site.

Since no grid was used to control the provenience over the site, it was necessary to visually number each feature in the field. This was done before the transit work was begun so the provenience numbers could be referred to as they were measured with the transit. Control of these features was carried out by means of a provenience card which was assigned to each feature, with all data relating to this feature recorded on the card. A large nail was stuck in the ground into each feature, on which was fastened a flag with the provenience number. This method allows any crew member to know the number of any feature immediately rather than having to look it up on a map (which may not be drafted yet) or in the provenience card file. Using this method any crew member can be told to excavate a feature with a particular number, and he can locate it and begin his work immediately with no difficulty.

Rather than designating a feature as Square 100L455, Feature 5, Level B, the South method employed at Holmes' Fort uses a provenience number system. The number "38" is used to designate the state of South Carolina, GN is used to designate Greenwood County, and "2" is used to designate the Holmes' Fort Site. Every bag of cultural

material taken from the site will have the number 38GN2. If the site is divided into various areas or if a grid is used, an area number is assigned (Area 4 for instance), followed by a provenience number designating a feature or excavation unit (5) within that area, to which is attached a letter designating any stratigraphic layer or excavation level within that unit (B).^{*} Area 4 of the site, Feature 5, Level B, would be designated as 38GN2-4-5B. Area 4 and Feature 5 would be shown on the master plan map of the site, and Level B would be shown on the profile drawing of Feature 5. With the use of the provenience cards, therefore, Card 4-5B would contain all the information relating to Feature 5, Level B, in Area 4. Level A or Level C of Feature 5 would have its own data recorded on the provenience card for those levels. Using this method there is never any need to put anything more than the number 38GN2-4-5B on the artifact bag. All observations made during excavation are recorded on the provenience card and on the profile drawings for that feature. When the artifacts from the feature are washed and catalogued in the field laboratory this number is recorded on each artifact. When cataloging is carried out only the final catalog number needs to be added to complete the identification.

This system is somewhat different from that taught in archeology courses and used by most archeologists. Its advantages over the traditional method of provenience control are many, which we will not go into here. The primary reason for use of this system is that it allows tight feature and artifact control to be maintained while allowing the maximum freedom of movement in moving the most dirt in

* If individual artifacts within feature 5B are to be designated by a number, this number is added to the 5B figure as 5B1, 5B2, etc.

Figure 4

The Holmes' Fort Firing Step Ditch at the Small Bastion, Intruding on the Williamson's Fort Bastion Ditch. The Swivel Gun Posthole for Holmes' Fort is in the Upper Right Center, with that for Williamson's Fort at the Upper Left.



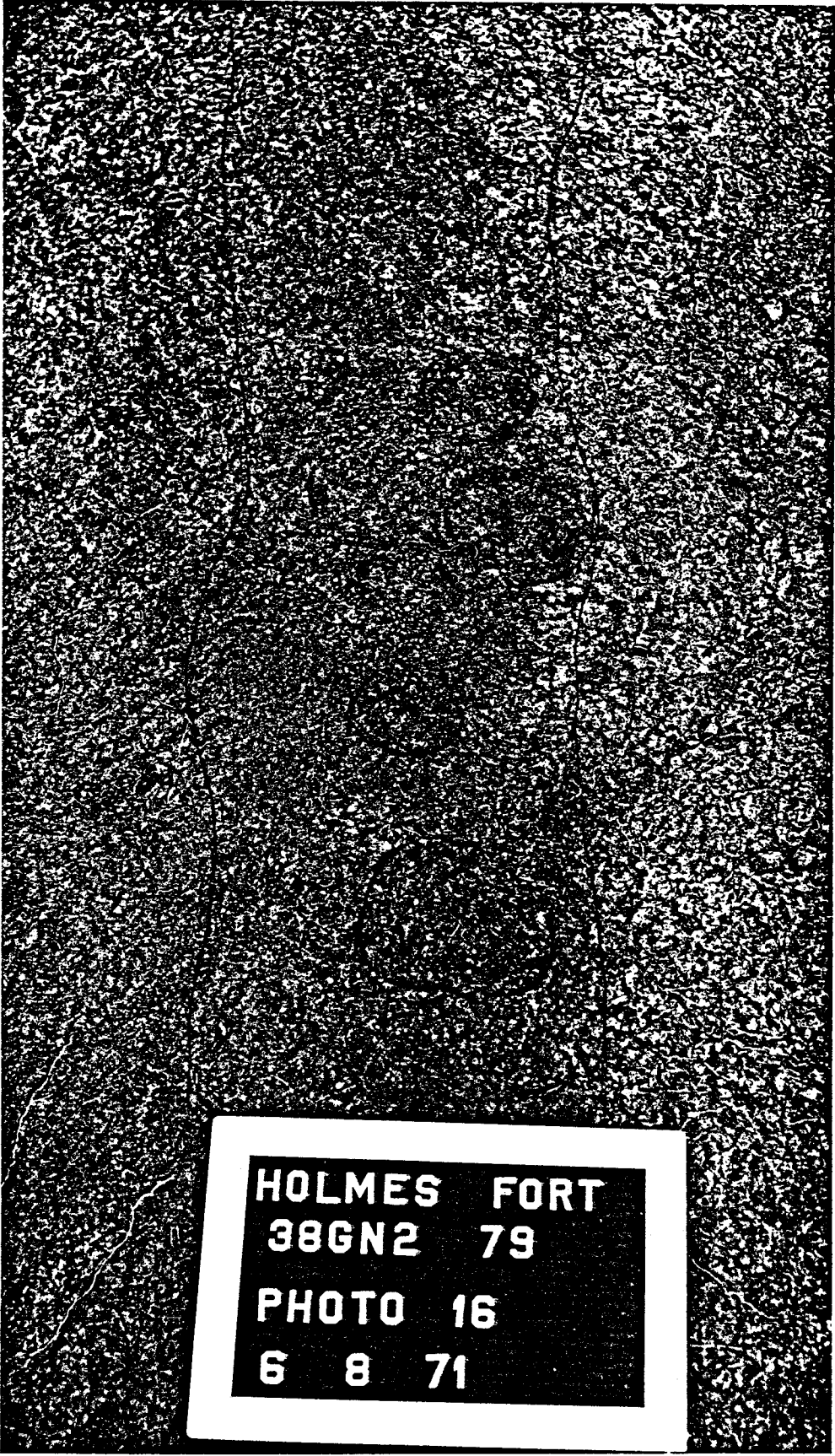
the smallest amount of time, and thus recovering much more data than is possible using traditional methods.

It was hoped before the Holmes' Fort project began that perhaps the entire fort could be schnitted clean and photographed from the air before excavation of the features was undertaken, but the nature of the Davidson soil was such that only a limited area could be stripped and photographed at a time before the moisture left the ground and the outline of the features were obscured. Therefore, as each area was cleaned, photographs were taken to record the visual soil differences, but sometimes even under ideal conditions the slight variations seen by the eye would not be picked up by the camera. The method of stringing off each feature, therefore, proved a valuable asset, and photographs taken of these strings came to be those most revealing of the features (Fig. 2-4). Aerial type photographs were taken by use of a "cherry picker" boom kindly loaned on occasion by a local company, and this provided an excellent means of obtaining pictures from a high vantage point (Fig. 12).

Not all the features located could be completely excavated, but the entire main ditch of Holmes' Fort was taken out to the original depth. Several ten-foot provenience units were taken out by hand labor to determine the nature of the ditch contents and the type of artifacts recovered (Fig. 8, 9). Based on this controlled excavation it was determined that the artifact yield and the nature of the fill (intentional backfill) was such that it would be best to remove the

Figure 5

The Holmes' Fort Firing Step Ditch with the
Burned Posts Characteristic of this Feature.



HOLMES FORT
38GN2 79
PHOTO 16
6 8 71

contents of the ditch with a backhoe (Fig. 10). The backhoe straddled the fort ditch, and with the guidance of a man in the ditch and another man on the bank, the excavation of the fort ditch was carried out. Each bucket full of dirt was examined as it was placed in position where the original parapet had been, and the spot from which the bucket load was taken was examined by the man in the ditch. By this method, the majority of the ditch was excavated. The exception to this was when any concentration of artifacts was found, at which time the work was again carried out by hand labor. This occurred in the south ditch area when a section of the ditch was found to have been used as a dump, and some creamware and pearlware were found in the ditch where a Spanish coin had been found in the exploratory phase of the project (South 1971).

When the entire ditch was excavated in this manner the crew was again put in the ditch and hand labor was used to take the remaining few inches from the bottom, which had been intentionally left on the theory that it might contain more artifacts than the upper fill layers (Fig. 11).

Other features, such as postholes, pits, trenches, etc. were sectioned and drawn and photographed before the second half was removed. This work was carried out by Richard Polhemus with a crew of men especially assigned to this work.

Figure 6

Section of Partially Excavated Firing Wall
Ditch of Holmes' Fort Showing Charcoal of Burned
Post. Note the Dry, Cracked Characteristic of the
Davidson Soil on the Site.

NINETY SIX
38 GN 2 79
HOLMES FORT

PHOTO 81
6 24 1971

N

THE ARCHEOLOGICAL COMPONENTS (38GN2)

In the exploratory archeology projects of 1970, the outline of Holmes' Fort built in 1780 was seen as a broad ditch with accompanying burned palisade trench (South 1971). When the entire fort area was stripped in 1971, a more complicated situation was found to exist. The large mitten shaped hornwork ditch of Holmes' Fort was found to intrude on a palisade trench in several places (Fig. 14). This pre-Holmes' Fort trench was something of a surprise since it had been assumed that the fort known as Williamson's Fort was only a flimsy thing thrown up of fence rails and cowhides during the three day engagement between Whigs and Tories in the first engagement of the Revolution on the site, November 19-21, 1775 (South 1971). However, with this discovery, these intruded-on trenches were designated as the Williamson's Fort Component (Fig. 15). From this evidence it was apparent that the fence rail fort mentioned in the documents was not made of horizontally laid rails, but vertical ones, set in a palisade trench in the traditional stockade manner.

The outline of Holmes' Fort main fortification ditch was found to be essentially that revealed through the 1970 exploratory excavation on the site, with considerable refinement of detail, however. The burned palisade type trench seen in the 1970 season was found to be an identifying feature associated with Holmes' Fort, since the similar trench from Williamson's Fort was not burned. This broad ditch and the accompanying parallel burned trench with evidence of small burned

poles formed the main features of the Holmes' Fort Component (Fig. 16).

Throughout the west area of the site a series of square or rectangular postholes with square or round postmolds were found. These were six or eight feet apart and in rows, appearing to be the remains of fence lines. Outlines of six cellar holes were also found during excavation, and one of these was completely excavated. These were seen to intrude on both the Williamson's Fort features and those of Holmes' Fort, thus post-dating the fill date for the Holmes' Fort ditches. A drainage ditch and sump for one of these cellars was found to be in alignment with the rows of postholes and the excavated cellar. These features were apparently remains of the town of Cambridge, which was created with the passage of an act of the South Carolina Assembly in 1783 (Fig. 17). These and other associated features were designated as the Cambridge Component.

Williamson's Fort of 1775

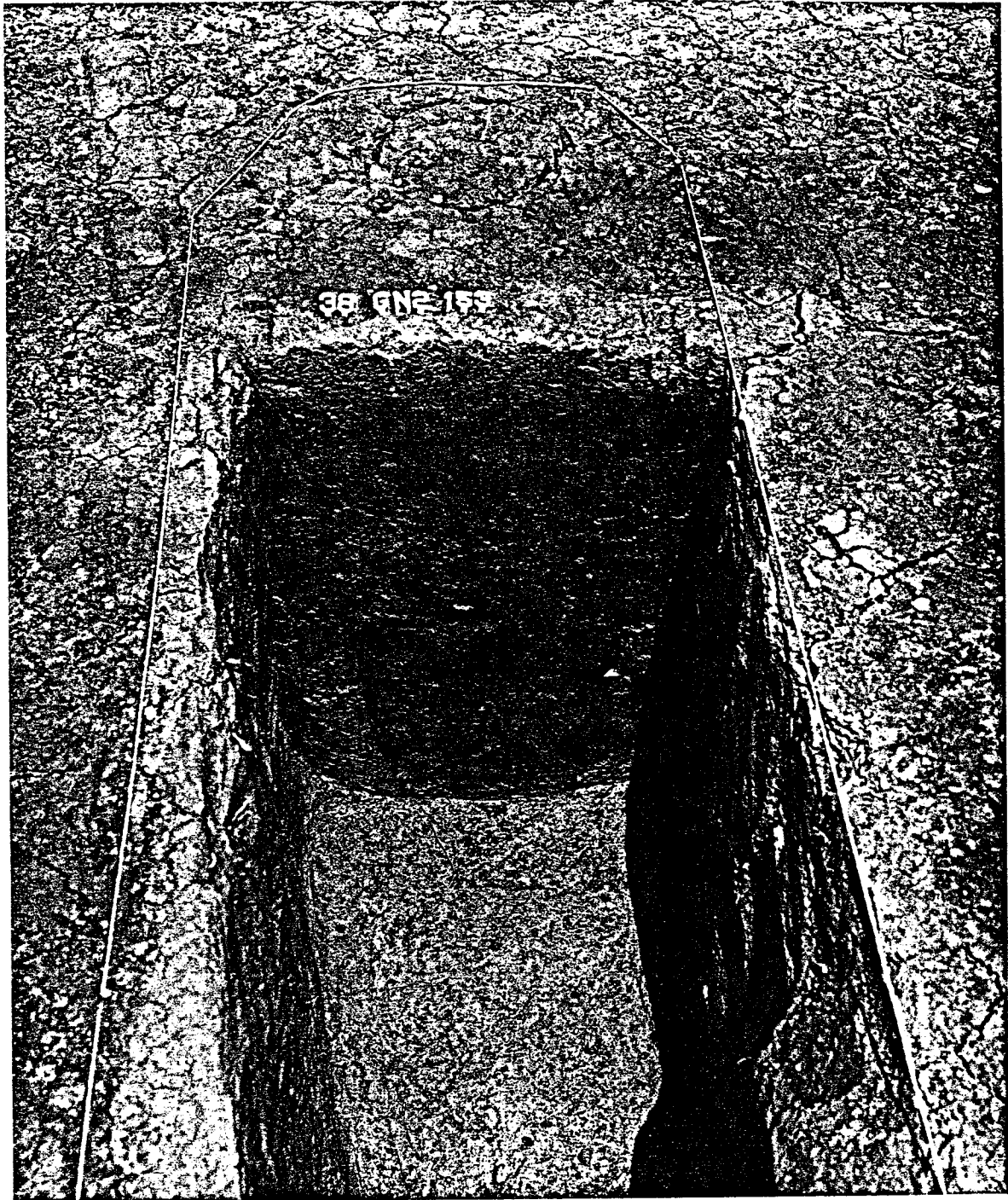
The Williamson's Fort trenches were found to enclose an area 85 by 150 feet with evidence for three structures being found. The trenches were found to end at three places, all of which contained footing holes for a structure (Fig. 15). The south structure was represented by seven footing holes forming a rectangle 15 by 30 feet. The west structure was represented by six footings forming a square 19 by 21 feet. The north structure was represented by

the ending of three ditches plus only four footing holes, but the evidence clearly points to a building 21 by 32 feet. The third ditch abutting this building was apparently a low breastworks ditch outside the main enclosure of Williamson's Fort designed to protect against an attack from the north and northwest. This ditch was six feet wide at the subsoil level, indicating an original ditch about ten feet wide. It extended toward the west for 140 feet, then angled sharply toward the south for 45 feet. The extreme east end was intruded on by the construction of Holmes' Fort in 1780.

The structures located here, archeologically, apparently represent the barns of John Savage, against which the palisade of fence rails was constructed by the Whigs under Andrew Williamson and James Mayson in November, 1775 (South 1971:Fig. 15 this report). Though the west structure was represented by a basically square outline of postholes, it has been conjectured that it may well have been rectangular as were the other two buildings. A map published by John Drayton in 1821 reveals an outline of Williamson's Fort as it reportedly looked in 1775, based on William Drayton's records. This map can be seen in Figure 15 where it also has been enlarged and superimposed over the archeologically revealed features of Williamson's Fort. From a close look at this map, it can be seen that four structures are apparently represented by rectangular areas, with bastion angles connecting. The three archeologically revealed structures appear to correspond well with three of the rectangular areas on the 1775 map, with the fourth building position conjectured

Figure 7

Section of Williamson's Fort Ditch. Note
the Dry Condition of the Davidson Soil on the
Site.



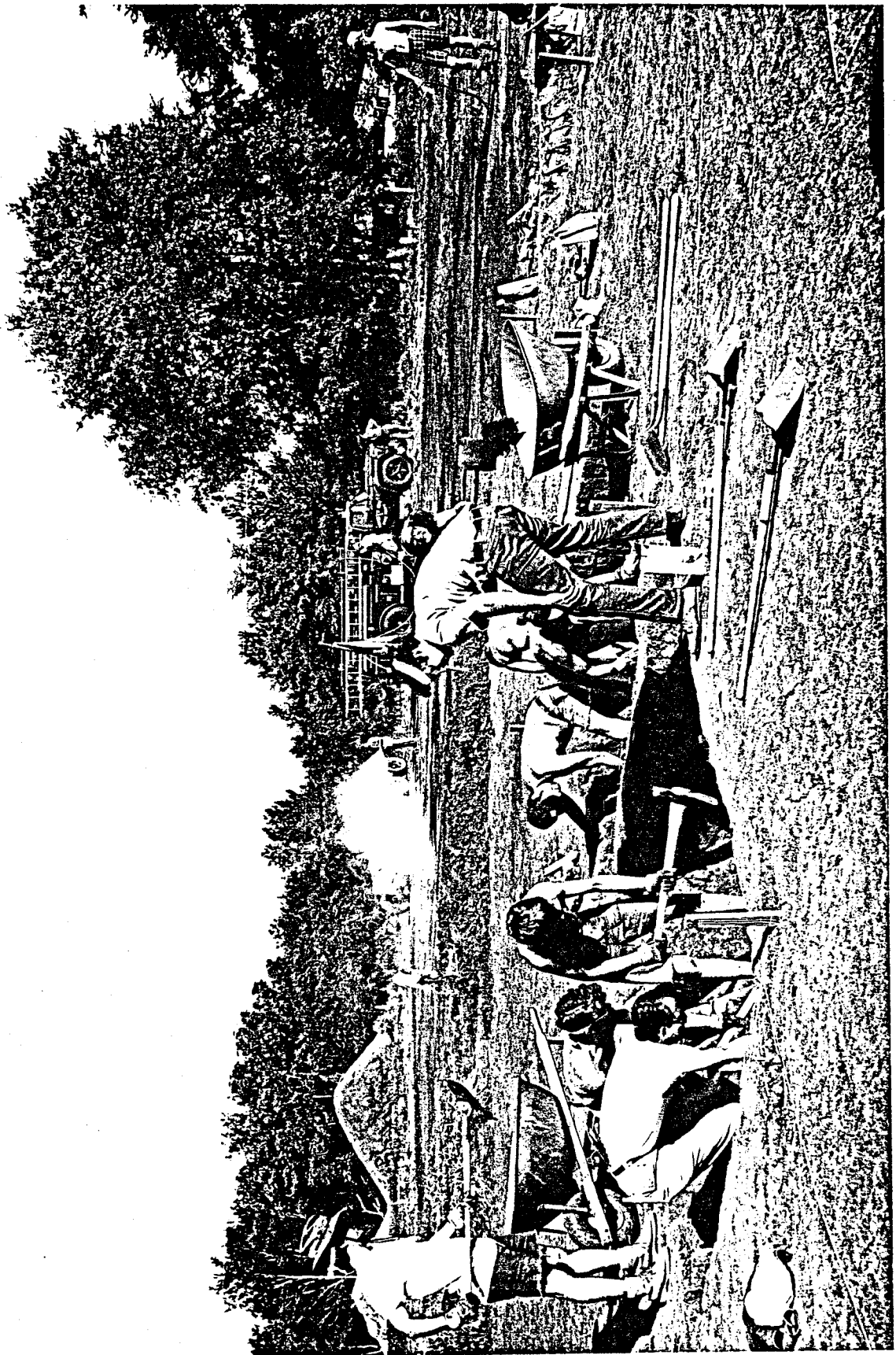
(Fig. 15). With this correlation between document and archeological features, it becomes clear that the palisade of fence rails abutting Savage's barns is represented by the features found here.

A particularly interesting feature is the south "bastion" just west of the south barn location. This angle matches well the angle shown on the 1775 map at this position and is obviously a bastion attached to the barn. The two ditches inside this bastion angle, forming a boxed-in area, are not clearly understood; though, it is conjectured that they were constructed to provide a place for a last ditch stand in case the remainder of the fort was captured. In this case the boxed-in palisaded area would allow for swivel gun fire from both sides of this area, while providing access to the log barn structure. A large posthole with three postmolds was found at a position inside the bastion that indicates that it is likely a swivel gun position, one of several known to have been in the hands of the defending Whigs (South 1971). Other swivel guns were no doubt placed in the remaining barns, which are so positioned in relation to the palisade ditches that an effective cover could be maintained along the curtain wall of fence rail palisade.

The entire contents of the Williamson's Fort trench were not excavated, with only samples taken at various intervals (Fig. 7), but in these areas the trench was found to be one foot wide and two feet deep. The trench along the northeast side of the area was apparently destroyed by the construction of Holmes' Fort in 1780. It seems remarkable that such a fort could be constructed

Figure 8

Excavation in Progress on the Fortification
Ditch for Holmes' Fort at the Large Bastion. Note
Firetruck in the Background Wetting Down the Site.



in only three days, during the engagement, until we remember that there were almost 500 Whigs defending themselves inside this work, and this number of men can move a lot of dirt in a short time with sufficient tools, stimulated by 2000 Tories surrounding and firing on them (South 1971).

Near the center of the area of Williamson's Fort, a rectangular pit was found measuring 3.8 by 8 feet, and 2 feet deep (GN2-239). From all appearances this appeared to be a burial pit, but no evidence of a body was found inside. A few feet to the north of the south barn a larger shallow pit was found, inside of which was a burial pit two by six feet (GN2-240:Fig. 13). On excavation this grave proved to have human remains. At the left hip, a large pocket knife was found; and near the center of the body, large brass coat buttons were found. Fragments of pewter buttons were found near the rib cage, and brass wire eyes were found near the ankles, as though for fastening leggings. This individual had been buried in the bottom of the shallow pit when the pit was open. The function of the pit is unknown, though it is thought that it may have been used to obtain dirt for the Williamson's Fort defenses, perhaps for a protective embankment covering the entranceway to Savage's barn.

An interesting development occurred regarding this burial. When excavation was undertaken, a profile was left standing over the west end of the grave, so that when the bones were revealed the skull remained unseen beneath the profile wall of dirt. Bruce Ezell, research consultant and project director for the Star Fort

Historical Commission, remarked that if the skull indicated that the individual was shot in the head then it would likely be the body of James Birmingham, a Whig who was killed in the November engagement in 1775, and considered the first South Carolinian to die in the Revolution. Mr. Ezell remembered reading that Birmingham was shot in the head and that his brains were coming out through the hole. This comment resulted in the individual being referred to as James Birmingham, with final proof awaiting the excavation of the west end of the burial and a thorough examination to determine if he was killed by being shot in the head. When the entire burial was exposed, a hole was indeed seen in the left temple that may have come from a bullet. It also could have come from collapse of the fragile part of the temple at this point. When the skull was removed and taken to the laboratory and further excavation carried out on the interior of the skull, a badly distorted lead shot was indeed found. The weight was 7.2 grams, about that for a buckshot. The distortion was such that it seems that it had struck a hard object, which distorted it, and then struck and killed this individual. With this discovery it appeared that there was no doubt but that this was the body of James Birmingham. However, Mr. Ezell was not able to locate the reference he had remembered regarding Birmingham being shot in the head. However, in the Journals of the General Assembly 1776 (Hemphill et al 1970:26) on Thursday, April 4, 1776, it was

Resolved, That the following recompence and provision be made, to wit, to the family of James Birmingham, who, on the 19th of November last, was wounded through the body and died the 22th of the same month, leaving

a widow and a large family very poor, one hundred pounds ~~during her widowhood~~ to be paid immediately to relieve their present distress, and from the 1st day of April, 1776, to the widow an annuity of one hundred pounds during her widowhood, and afterwards to the children or child under twelve years of age.

From this record it becomes clear that Birmingham was not the reference referred to by Mr. Ezell, unless "wounded through the body" could be interpreted in the broadest sense, and included the head. This still does not account for the specific reference Mr. Ezell remembered regarding the brains coming from the bullet hole in the head of someone killed in the Williamson's Fort engagement whom he remembered as being James Birmingham. Perhaps this reference will yet be found and this mystery solved. One other individual was killed in the battle also, and this was Captain Luper, a Tory (South 1971:74), and one is tempted to speculate that the body in Feature 240 may have been Captain Luper. It might be suggested that this burial belonged to one of the men killed in the 1780 battle at Holmes' Fort on the same site. However, a number of people defending the works died at that time, and it is not likely that they buried this individual by himself while placing his dead comrades elsewhere. It has also been suggested that perhaps the empty grave, Feature 239, was for James Birmingham, dug on the day he died, the same day the cease fire was ordered, and upon learning of this his comrades took his body to his home to be buried, only a few miles away. If this was the case and the other body represents that of Captain Luper, why was not the

* empty grave used rather than digging another one? It can be said,

however, that this burial might represent the body of James Birmingham or Captain Luper who were killed in the 1775 engagement at Williamson's Fort, and this is about as close to identifying the remains that we are likely to come.

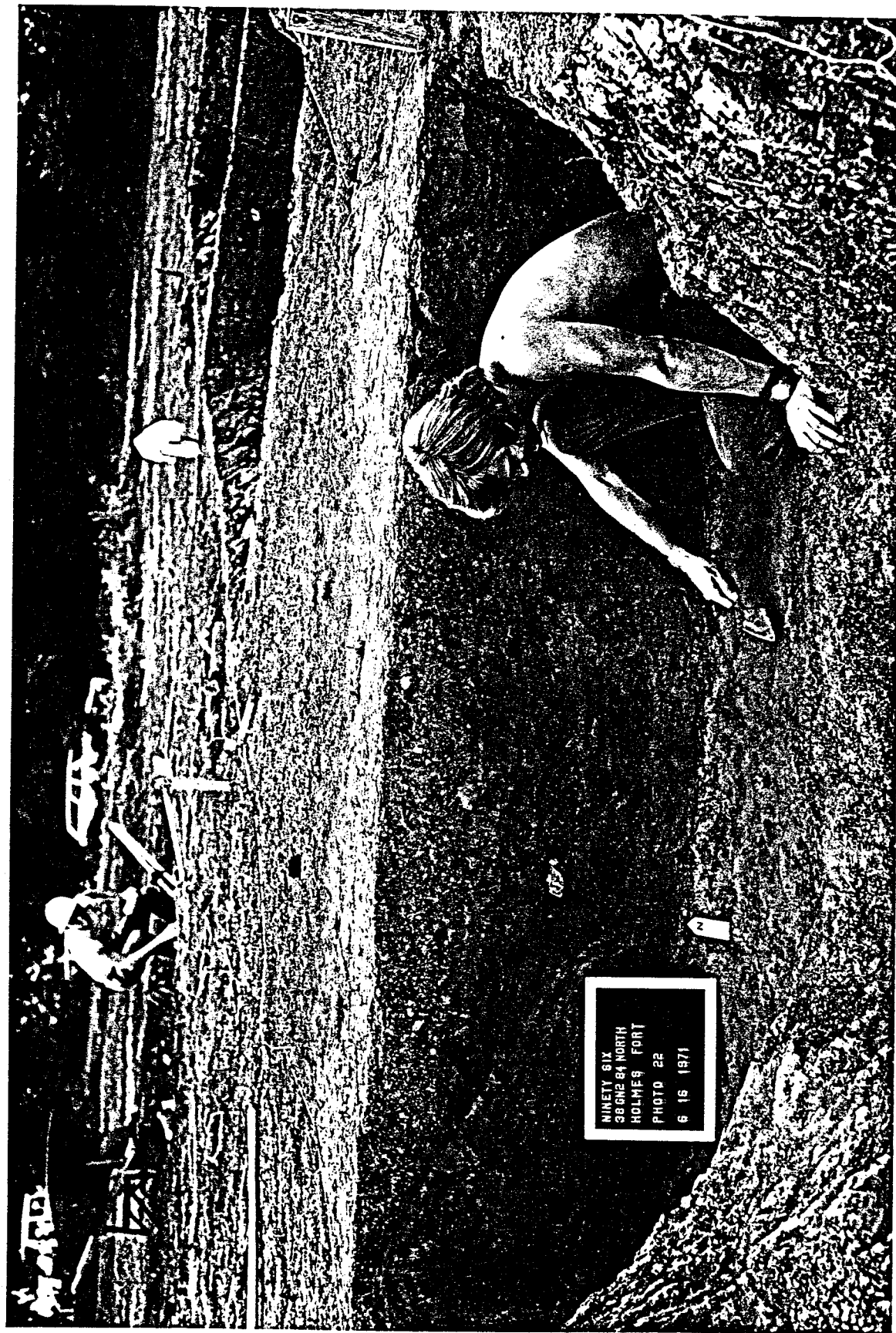
In the 1971 report on the historical data relating to Holmes' Fort, it was conjectured that the 40-foot deep well dug by the besieged Whigs would be found, but that other evidence for the fortifications would not (South 1971). Just the opposite was found to be the case when excavation was carried out. Ample evidence for the position and size of Williamson's Fort, including Savage's barns, was found, but the well was not located. It is thought to be near the edge of the drop-off of the bank to the east side of the fort and may be discovered in a later archeological project designed to locate and expose the covered way between Holmes' Fort and the town of Ninety Six.

Holmes' Fort of 1780-81

When the British fortified the town of Ninety Six in 1780 under the direction of Lieutenant Colonel John Harris Cruger, commander of the New Jersey Volunteers, Holmes' Fort was built on the west side of the town to preserve a communication with the water (Mackenzie 1787; South 1971). The Johnson map of 1822 shows Holmes' Fort as a "Stockade Fort" with four bastions. From the exploratory work done on the site in 1970, it was revealed that Holmes' Fort was a horn-work typical of those designed to protect a high ground that might prove of value to besiegers attacking a town, which in this case happened to be Ninety Six.

Figure 9

The Profile of the Holmes' Fort Ditch in Provenience Unit 84. Note the Depth of the Cracks in the Davidson Soil.



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The primary archeological features of the fort are a defensive ditch from eight to ten feet wide at the subsoil level and from three to four feet in depth and a burned firing step trench paralleling the large ditch (Fig. 3, 8, 9). The south curtain of the fort is 100 feet long, including the small bastion, with the area inside the fort being roughly 80 by 200 feet. The fort is shaped like a mitten, with a small bastion being the thumb and a large bastion representing the hand (Fig. 14, 16). The heavily burned firing step trench contained burned posts that were from three to five inches across, most being three to four inches, indicating a rather flimsy construction (Fig. 4-6).

Two of the barns of John Savage used in 1775 at Williamson's Fort were also used at Holmes' Fort, the south barn and the north barn. From the manner in which the two forts lie over each other in relation to these barns, it appears likely that some of those involved in the construction of Williamson's Fort were also involved in the construction of Holmes' Fort. In fact, Andrew Williamson was in charge of the militia at Ninety Six before the British arrived, and before they got to Ninety Six, he surrendered his force and supplies to the British and went over to the British side. It is possible that he actually had a hand in planning Holmes' Fort on the site of his successful defense in 1775 (South 1971). From the manner in which the main ditch of Holmes' Fort is seen to intrude on Williamson's Fort stockade ditch, it is clear that the west Savage barn had been torn down, or was torn down by the British before Holmes' Fort was

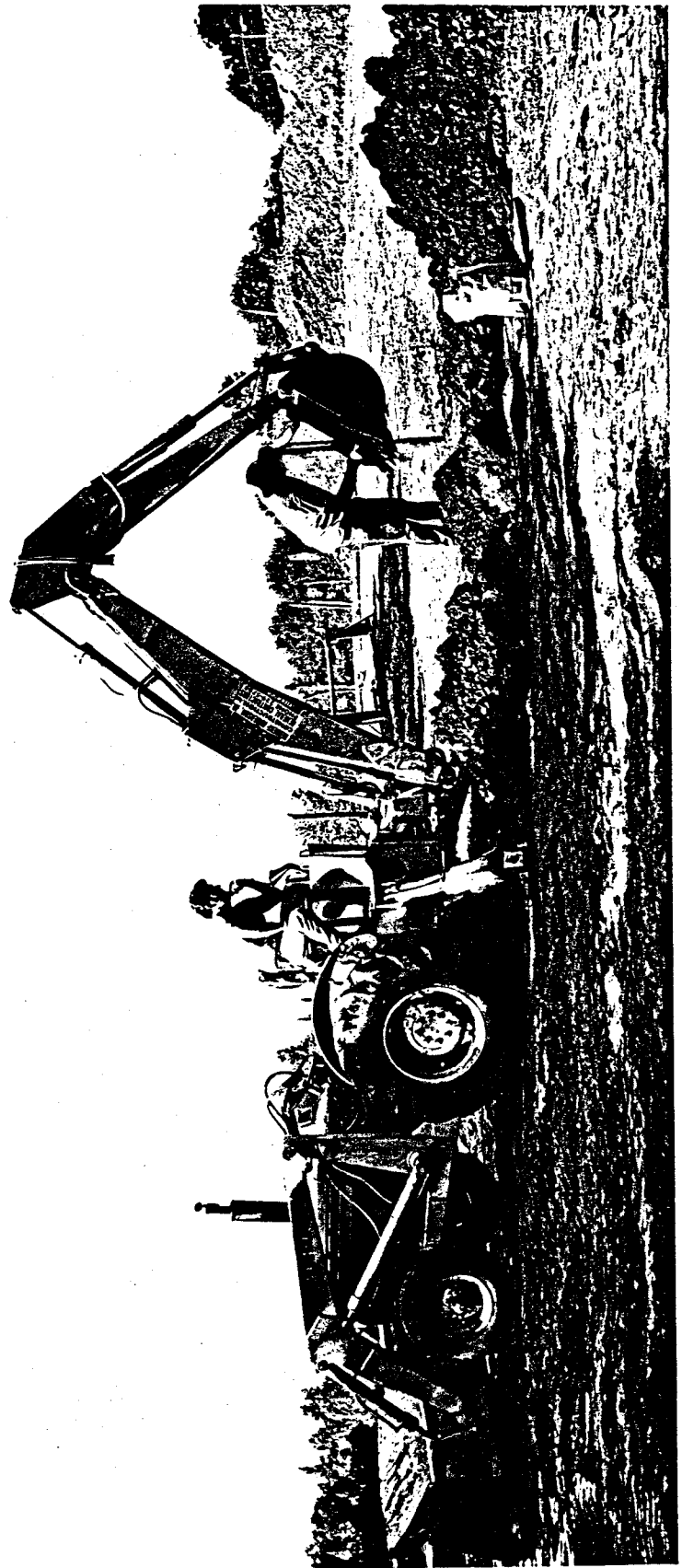
constructed (Fig. 14). Just as Williamson's Fort had had a bastion for a swivel gun attached at the west end of the south Savage barn, so the builders of Holmes' Fort also had a bastion at the same spot (Fig. 4, 14). The posthole for the swivel gun was also found. This swivel gun provided covering fire for the west ditch of the fort as well as toward the southeast and south, an extremely broad range of fire. In order for this range to be effected, the gun had to be higher than the parapet and stockade of the fort.

The north Savage barn was the strong point around which the main bastion of Holmes' Fort was constructed, just as had been the case with Williamson's Fort five years before. The size of these barns is clearly revealed by the position at which the six to eight trenches of the two forts end, so that the size of the buildings would be known even if there was no evidence for footings. The shape of the north bastion is such that a covering fire could be maintained along the northeast ditch of the fort from a window of the second floor of the barn, but such was not the case with the west ditch and curtain which was covered by the smaller south bastion. From the way the retaining wall ditches strike the main bastion barn, it is obvious where the doorway was located on the south side of this building.

Inside the works at the east end of the south barn, a shallow ditch 8 feet wide and 35 feet long, accompanied by a burned firing wall trench, was found (Fig. 16). This is interpreted as a ditch for a parapet protecting the blockhouse against attack from the covered way. From the position of this firing step wall ditch against the

Figure 10

Excavation of the Upper Fill Levels of Holmes'
Fort Ditch by Using a Backhoe.



north side of this building, it is obvious that the door for this barn-blockhouse was between the firing step and the corner of the building. A small angular section of trench with posts similar to those in the firing step ditch is seen to come from the edge of the building just west of the firing wall trench. The function of this small section of posts is not known, but it may have been a protective shield for the doorway to the barn-blockhouse (Fig. 16). A feature shown on the the 1970 map drawn from the exploratory archeology (South 1971) was thought to be a traverse ditch for protection of the north barn-blockhouse, similar in nature to the parapet protecting the south barn-blockhouse. However, upon closer examination this feature proved to be erosional and not connected with the period of the fort.

From the position of the burned firing step wall trench 12 feet inside the main fort ditch, it is apparent that this trench does not represent the stockade from which the fort got its name of the "stockade fort." The stockade was probably in the top of the parapet of earth taken from the ditch with the burned trench representing the firing wall step and retaining wall. An overlap of the burned trench is seen at the southeast corner of the north barn-blockhouse, and this is seen to represent an access ramp to the firing step behind the stockade wall. Profile drawings of Fort Motte and Fort Granby, both the same period as Holmes' Fort, were found in the South Carolina Archives and revealed a stockade totally buried by the parapet of earth. The interpretive statement relative to Holmes' Fort, with the comparative profiles of Forts Motte and Granby seen

in Figure 18, and a discussion are presented in a separate chapter of this report.

Few artifacts of a military nature were found during excavation of the fort. A few musket balls, some imbedded in burned fragments of palisades and lying in the fort ditch, and one fragment of a swivel gun are about all that were found to indicate a military use of the site. Without the architecture and the documents, we could not interpret the military function of the site from the artifacts alone, emphasizing the importance of correlation of all data for the greatest understanding of the events relating to an historic site.

The main ditch profile revealed displaced (slightly disturbed) subsoil in the bottom, a few inches to a foot in depth. This is seen to have come from the natural erosion of the parapet in the two years following the battle in 1781. About a foot from the bottom of the ditch, a brown layer of humus was seen, sometimes containing objects such as creamware or pearlware fragments. Above this layer was more red clay fill, apparently intentionally thrown into the ditch. This profile information can be correlated with the documentary evidence regarding the fort site. The fort was burned by Colonel Cruger in 1781 after Greene lifted the siege of Ninety Six, which accounts for the burned firing wall step ditch. Apparently burnable material was piled against the stockade and the firing wall posts and set on fire in an effort to prevent the use of the works again if Greene reoccupied the fort. The stockade posts were positioned in the parapet, however, which prevented evidence of them from being found, archeologically.

Figure 11

The Holmes' Fort Ditch After Excavation, Being Given a Final Cleaning by High School Boys from the Office of Economic Opportunity. The shaping of the parapet on the left, and the sodding of it and the fort ditch must now be done by contractors in order to prevent the excavated fort from again falling into complete ruin through neglect. However, no funds are now available for maintenance and stabilization or interpretation of this historic feature.



Only the deeper set firing wall posts in their trench would survive to indicate their position. From the evidence of the main fort ditch and the firing wall step trench, however, the position of the stockade can be fixed with considerable certainty.

After the destruction by Cruger in 1781 of the fortifications and town of Ninety Six, the ruins of the fort and the parapets eroded into the ditch for two years. In 1783, however, the Assembly of South Carolina provided for the construction of a public school at Ninety Six, which came to be known as Cambridge. A map of the town was laid out at that time, not on the original site of the destroyed town in the valley, but on the high ground of the confiscated property of the Tory, James Holmes, the man for whom the fort was named. This new town of Ninety Six soon took on the name of the Cambridge School and came to be known as Cambridge. With the planning of a new town on the site of Holmes' Fort, the ruins of the fort were a decided disadvantage and had to be leveled.

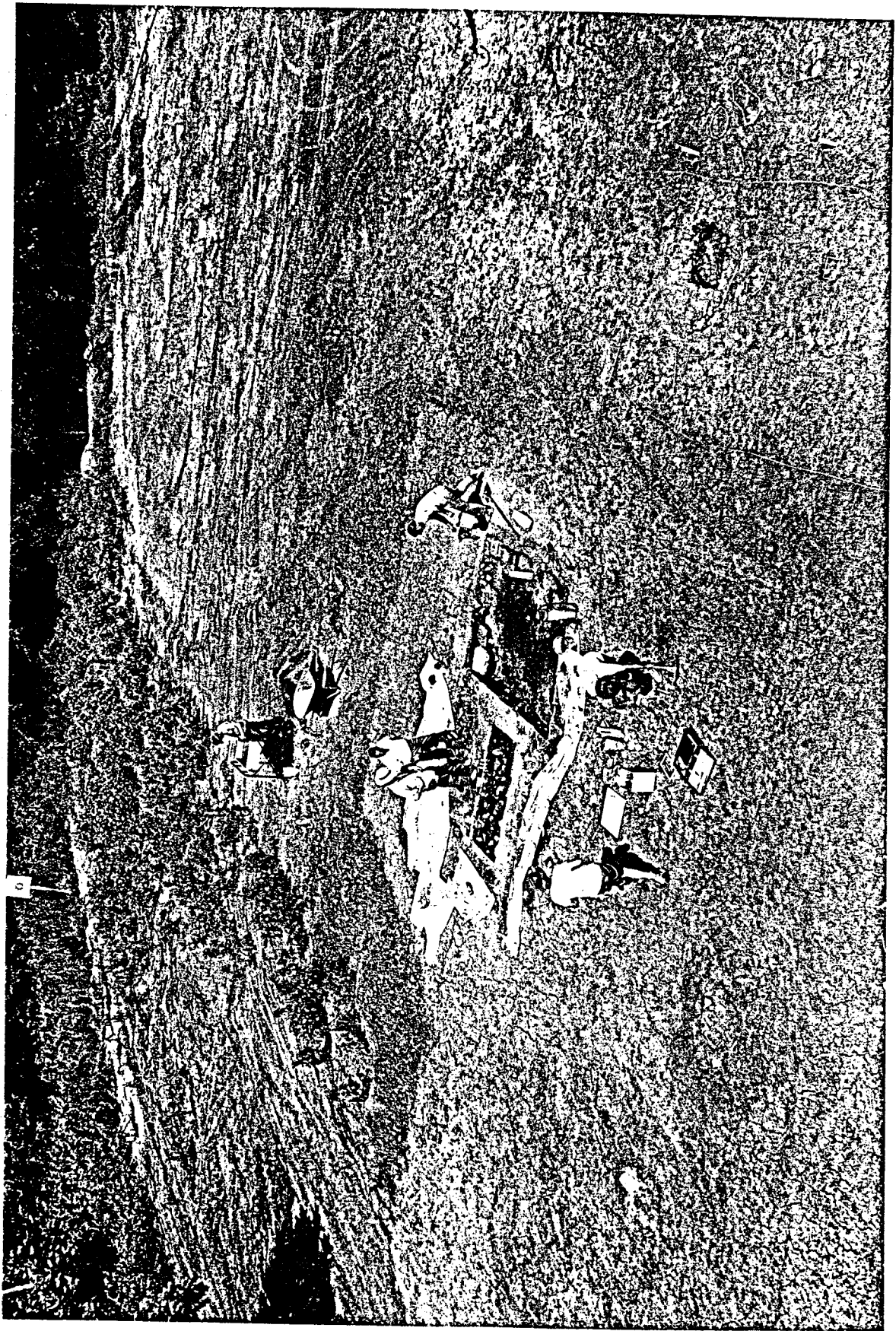
This sequence of events, we can see, reflected in the ditch profile of Holmes' Fort. The bottom layer (C) represents the wash into the ditch from the period of construction of the fort in 1780 until 1781, when some backfilling may have been done by Cruger. The middle layer (B), usually six to eight inches thick in the center of the ditch containing some humus and a few broken china fragments, represents the period of standing open from 1781 to 1783. The top red fill, containing virtually no artifacts, is the intentional fill placed there when the new town was laid out on the site in 1783.

Nothing recovered from the ditch dates after this period to counter this interpretation.

A feature of considerable significance relating to the fort, but not an integral part of it, is the trench representing "Light Horse Harry" Lee's approach trench (Fig. 14, 16). This trench was found to begin 110 feet west of the north bastion of Holmes' Fort and extend with a slight angle toward the north a distance of 160 feet to end at the bank of the old roadbed to Ninety Six. When Lee's approaches had been pushed sufficiently close to Holmes' Fort, he assaulted the works after softening it up with artillery in a triangular fire (Mackenzie 1787; South 1971). On June 18, 1781, it was captured by Lee, who had to give it up that night as Greene moved out in the face of Lord Rawdon's relief army (South 1971). The triangular fire at Holmes' Fort, mentioned in Mackenzie's 1787 account of the battle at Ninety Six, indicates that Lee had artillery and possibly approach trenches on three sides of Holmes' Fort. We do know he had them close enough to the edge of the east slope of the hill so that he could command the approach to the stream from which the besieged garrison obtained water. It is likely that there were approach trenches on the south as well as northeast of Holmes' Fort, and these may eventually be located if further excavation is carried out in the area. The approach trench of Lee measured 2.3 feet wide and 3.0 feet deep below the subsoil level, which means that the original approach trench would have been about four feet deep.

Figure 12

View of Excavation Underway at the Cambridge
Cellar, Taken from the "Cherry Picker" Boom.



Not yet found inside the fort is the covered way connecting Holmes' Fort with the town of Ninety Six. This was shown on the Johnson map of 1822 and is, no doubt, located at the east end of the site between the fortification ditches, an area not examined in this project. Later, archeology should be done to locate this important feature of significance to Holmes' Fort, and to the defense of Ninety Six.

The Town of Cambridge - 1783

Many square and round postholes spaced six to eight feet apart were found to align in rows, with some intruding on both the Holmes' Fort and Williamson's Fort features (Fig. 14, 17). Three north-south rows were 200 to 250 feet long, with two only from three to five feet apart, apparently representing property lines at different periods of time. Ten rows were seen to run east-west and varied from three to fifty feet apart with no regular spacing being evident. These may represent lot lines in the form of picket fences. They are in alignment with the cellar hole (GN2-76, 224, 225), which was completely excavated, and are assumed to date from the period of Cambridge, around 1783 to the 1850's. Six cellar holes were located during the excavation, all of which may eventually be examined as part of the exploration of the town of Cambridge when funds are made available for this project. The excavation of the Cambridge cellar was carried out by Steven Baker and a crew assigned to him, and his account of this work is in a separate report (Fig. 12).

To the west of the excavated cellar a drainage ditch and sump were excavated by Richard Polhemus and his crew. This appears to have been associated with the cellar seen just west of the drain, but not excavated or plotted. Several pits, such as 207, 209, 205, 202, etc., were excavated and found to belong to the Cambridge Component, as was the privy hole (168) which served the occupants of the excavated cellar. This privy was dug into the filled Holmes' Fort ditch. Details of these features will be reported in the report dealing with the artifacts from the Holmes' Fort Site.

A large feature filled with large stones (77) was found 50 feet west of the small bastion of Holmes' Fort (Fig. 2). This pit measured 15 by 22 feet and contained numerous objects from the early nineteenth century associated with a stable, such as horse-shoes, harness buckles, bit, and stirrup. The feature was relatively shallow and may represent the floor of a stable of the Cambridge period. Details of this feature will also be reported in the artifact report.

As was mentioned in the previous chapter, Cambridge had its beginning with an act of the South Carolina Assembly of 1783, and these intrusive features into the Williamson and Holmes' Fort represent this post-1783 period. With the move of the railroad to the area north of Cambridge in the first half of the nineteenth century, plus a reputation for unhealthy water and other factors, the town died and was replaced by the present town of Ninety Six in the 1850's. Some few houses are along Cambridge Road today,

Figure 13

Williamson's Fort Burial after Excavation.
Note Position of Pocket Knife at Left Hip and Coat
Buttons at the Right Hand. The Individual Was
Killed by a Single Buckshot Wound in the Left
Temple.



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these are modern, having been built in recent years. A discussion of the Cambridge period is seen in Steve Baker's report.

The Johnson map of 1822 shows the town of Cambridge as having 13 pictures (Fig. 17). When the excavated cellar at Cambridge is used as a standard of size, these houses can be projected onto the archaeological base map using the junction of the old road with the highway as a point of correlation. When this is done and the Holmes' Fort is also shown on that map is also projected at the same scale, we find that the Holmes' Fort drawing of Johnson fits well over the actual excavated site of the fort (Fig. 17). From the Johnson map of 1822, it is evident that the earliest Cambridge dwellings were located near the intersection of the roads, and those not shown on the map were either already gone by 1822 or were yet to be built.

During the excavation of the area west of the main Holmes' Fort area, in the vicinity of Lee's approach trench, a very hard packed surface below the subsoil was seen. This area was so hard that it was almost like brick and was subject to more rapid drying than the remainder of the site. A backhoe was used to section this area to determine the cause of this phenomenon, and from the resulting profiles, it was apparent that this had been a hard-packed roadbed in the past, which was still visible even in areas of the site where the plowed zone had not been removed. This roadbed is seen on the map in Figure 14.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE INTERPRETIVE STABILIZATION
OF HOLMES' FORT AT NINETY SIX*

This report is designed to act as a guide for the Star Fort Historical Commission in drawing up contracts with contractors for the execution of the stabilization and interpretation of the site at Williamson-Holmes' Fort, under the supervisory guidance of the archeologist who will advise the contractor in his execution of the work.

The archeological excavation at the site of Holmes' Fort at Ninety Six, South Carolina, in an exploratory expedition in 1970 and a more extensive project in 1971 produced evidence of three major components on the site. The fort built in 1775 known as Williamson's Fort was represented by a palisade ditch abutting three areas representing the barn and outbuildings of John Savage. The structures were represented by square and rectangular footing pits that once held posts that supported the hewn log buildings. A small bastion was located just west of the south log barn as revealed by the "V" shape of the palisade ditch at this point, inside of which was a large posthole on which a swivel gun was probably mounted during the three day battle between the 500 Whigs inside the fort and the 2000 Tories outside.

The second major component at the site was also a stockade fort with the addition of a major fortification ditch around the

*A stabilization-interpretation map illustrating the suggested method of developing the archeological features into explanatory exhibits accompanies this report (Fig. 18). This chapter of this report was prepared and presented to the Star Fort Commission on January 31, 1972.

outside. The stockade ditch also abutted the same log barns of John Savage as did the 1775 fort, with the exception of the westernmost structure, which had apparently been torn down between 1775 and 1780 when the British built Holmes' Fort on the same site. Because of this removal of the westernmost barn Holmes' Fort was shaped somewhat differently than Williamson's Fort, being in the form of a two bastioned hornwork enclosing two log barns referred to in the documents as "blockhouses." Apparently the same log barns of John Savage that were used for defense of the Whigs in 1775 had been utilized in 1780 and, perhaps, altered somewhat to serve as blockhouses for the British defense of the site in 1781. James Holmes owned the Savage property at this time, and since the two forts utilized the same space and buildings, it appears obvious that some of the same participants were present in 1775 and in 1780 when these forts were built, an entirely likely situation. In fact, the same man may well have constructed both forts. Andrew Williamson, jointly commanding the Whigs with James Mayson in 1775, was in charge of the emergency construction at the three day battle using old fence rails as palisades in the ditch connecting the several defensive buildings. In 1780 he was again at Ninety Six with a force of men anticipating the British advance on Ninety Six but decided on discretion, and as the British approached, he sent word that he was willing to surrender his force and considerable store of supplies and weapons to Lord Balfour.

We should keep in mind the fact that this Holmes' Fort bastion of the Ninety Six defenses was most often referred to as "the stockade fort" and was not considered a "regular" work as was the Star Fort bastion. This means that the fort was somewhat different from the Star Fort, which we know was sandbagged on top of the parapet with a row of stakes or poles (fraises) set horizontally or at a slightly downward slope into the outer face of the parapet wall. This was designed to prevent assault troops from climbing the parapet from the ditch. This was a "regular" type fortification, whereas the works at Holmes' Fort was a "stockade fort." However, archeological evidence has clearly revealed that a ditch ten feet wide and five feet deep was dug to form the defenses of the fort and, thus, was not merely a simple unditched stockade in the usual sense.

The burned posts found in the trench 12 feet inside the fort ditch were only .4 feet across, hardly the type of palisade that could be expected to support a large amount of dirt thrown against it. Also, the position of this ditch in relation to the parapet is such that if it were the stockade from which the fort took its appearance, it is located inside the parapet and not on it, thus not affording the best defensive protection. A statement of Light Horse Harry Lee's regarding the attempt by his men to burn the stockade at Holmes' Fort is significant in our interpretation of this burned palisade ditch. Lee sent a sergeant and nine men toward the fort crawling on their bellies.

* At length he reached the ditch with three others; the whole close behind. Here unluckily he was discovered, while in the act of applying his fire. Himself and five were killed... (Lee 1812:123).

It is clear that they were applying fire to the stockade while they were in the ditch, a feat not easily accomplished if the main stockade was located 12 feet away behind the parapet. If the burned trench found archeologically is not the remains of the stockade that gave the fort its distinguishing character, what function did the row of posts serve? The answer comes from a comparison with the Revolutionary War redoubt excavated in Camden, South Carolina, by Bob Strickland (1971:58). Here a series of three parallel trenches were found representing short palisades designed to hold back the earth of the parapet and firing steps inside the redoubt (Strickland 1971: 59). The main ditch was 12 feet wide, with the distance taken up by the parapet being 15 feet. At Holmes' Fort the original fort ditch was eight to nine feet at the subsoil level, with 12 feet between the inside edge of the ditch and the burned palisade trench. This comparison gives us a strong indication that the function of the trench was that of a retaining wall for the inside of the parapet.

Two other clues relate to this interpretation. One is the fact that along the entire length of the trench there is evidence of burning. We know the British burned and attempted to destroy the fortifications when they evacuated the area in July, 1781, to prevent their future use by Nathaniel Greene and the Continental Army. In order for a retaining wall to burn along its entire length in this manner, combustibles must have been piled against the exposed side of the poles to produce a fire hot enough to force

burning of the palisades deeply into their trench. Another clue to be considered is the fact that to the east of the main blockhouse-barn this burned trench is offset with a distance of about two feet between the segments. This space may represent an access ramp to the firing step supported by the posts set in the trench, an access that would be needed as the defenders moved between the blockhouse and their firing positions along the parapet wall.

Another excellent parallel for comparison is seen in the profiles of Forts Motte and Granby (Fig. 18). The main difference between these forts and Holmes' Fort is that with the latter the stockade posts were allowed to protrude above the parapet causing it to be known as "the stockade fort."

From these clues, therefore, it appears that the archeologically seen burned posts in a burned ditch represent a parapet or firing step retaining wall with a larger stockade set in the parapet between the firing step wall and the edge of the fort ditch, probably near the center of the 12 foot space. Palisades set in the parapet such as this would provide the maximum height between the bottom of the ditch and the top of the palisades, with the palisades acting as an extension of the parapet scarp. With such a placement of the stockade, Lee's men could well reach up from their position in the ditch and attempt to set fire to the stockade. The excellent defensive nature of such a parapet and stockade wall combination well explains the necessity to risk the lives of men in an attempt to burn the stockade from a position in the ditch. Having failed in this, Lee was forced

to use his artillery to open a breach in the stockade through which his men then captured the fort.

With the stockade set in the top of the parapet as an extension to the scarp, we can understand why there was no archeological evidence for the trench into which the stockade was set since it was very likely placed after the construction of the parapet, and the bottom of the trench would have been above the level of the surface of the ground. When the British burned the fort, they may well have taken down these stockade poles and piled them against the firing step wall posts along the entire length and set fire to them, burning both the stockade poles and the firing step wall poles in the process. This would easily account for the extreme heat that was necessary to combust the firing step wall poles to the extent that they were found archeologically within the heavily burned trench. The drawing (Fig. 18) illustrates the interpretation discussed here.

The third major component at the site was the ruin of the new town of Ninety Six authorized in 1783, which was shortly to become known as Cambridge. Numerous postholes and footings were found representing this town, many of which intruded onto the previous features of Williamson's Fort and Holmes' Fort. Several cellar holes were located also, with the footings and cellars aligning to provide evidence for the exact orientation of the town of Cambridge over the site of the two forts and the log barns of what had been John Savage's plantation in 1775.

The suggestions presented in this paper are prepared in advance of the archeological report on the Williamson-Holmes-Cambridge excavation so as to provide a framework for the stabilization and interpretive development of the site and to allow time for this phase of the project to be obtained.

During the excavation of the site, the entire topsoil mantle was stripped and removed to allow the underlying features to be observed. This mantle must eventually be replaced on the site. First, however, the following steps should be taken for the proper stabilization and interpretive exhibition of the features revealed through archeology.

1. Drains should be installed at each of the east ends of the fortification ditch of Holmes' Fort. These drain lines can be cut with a backhoe but must run at an angle to the fort ditch rather than down the unexcavated ends of the ditch so as not to damage any evidence that may some day be revealed through excavation along the edge of the drop-off of the bank. The pipe should have cemented joints.
2. At the time the drain lines are installed, the grade of the bottom of Holmes' Fort ditch should be established so that water runs to the catch basin for the drain line and does not dam up and produce standing water.
3. The parapet inside the main fort ditch was roughly positioned and left in place by the archeologist, and this must be shaped and dressed by machine and by hand so as to produce a regularity of form. A one to two foot wide berm was likely present between the ditch and parapet, and we suggest this be positioned as indicated on the stabilization-interpretation drawing in Figure 18.
4. The archeologist left posts in position in the ditches and footings for Williamson's Fort (painted blue), Holmes' Fort (painted red), and Savage's barns (painted white), to act as a guide for positioning the interpretive posts in

in the exact position of the original ones. If these posts are moved, the ditches will have to be relocated by an archeological crew at more cost.

5. Posts measuring five to eight inches across the large end and ten feet long should be purchased from a PENTA pressure treating firm for constructing the stockade. Such posts have a life expectancy of 25 years. Using anything else is either too unsightly and dangerous to children or will not last long enough to warrant the investment involved. These posts need to be ordered some three months in advance of the delivery date so as to be on hand when the stabilization project begins.
6. Two sizes of posts will be needed, smaller ones four to five inches across will be needed to construct the firing wall with larger ones to reconstruct the stockade in the top of the parapet. Ten foot long poles can be used for both purposes. The firing wall poles should be cut in two by hand labor using axes, and the stockade poles will have to be sharpened on the small end. The horizontally laid step wall should be held in place with vertical posts at intervals.
7. While the parapet is being shaped on the outside face, the ditch for the firing step wall should be opened using a mechanical ditch digger, if possible, and hand labor if it is not. Care should be taken not to disturb any of the marker posts for Williamson's Fort in the process, for if they are moved, the position of ditches on the site is lost.
8. It may be found that a mechanical ditch digger is not practical for use in the crowded area at the inside toe of the parapet, in which case the entire ditch will need to be dug by hand using posthole diggers. We have found that digging only three or four feet in advance of the crew putting the posts in position is the best approach since a ditch dug at one time tends to become filled again through the activity of the post installation crew and must be cleaned out again as the posts are installed.
9. A mechanical tamper can be rented for insuring a secure tamping of the posts in the ditch. This, plus hand tamping, is a necessity since untamped posts in a red clay soil ditch tend to float out of position when the ditch fills with subsurface water during hard rains. Secure tamping, therefore, is an important necessity.

10. The posts for the firing step wall should be set into the ditch to a depth of 18 inches to 2 feet below the subsoil level inside the parapet. Later, when the topsoil is again placed against the posts, the top of the posts will be two feet above the reestablished ground surface inside the fort.
11. With the firing step wall posts in position, the area behind them can be filled in with dirt using a front loader. The parapet and firing step will need to be shaped and dressed by hand labor with the help of machines. A second firing step wall may have been made of fascines or gabions but were probably of horizontal poles as shown on the drawing in Figure 18.
12. Once the parapet is tamped and shaped the stockade ditch in the top center of the parapet should be dug using hand labor with posthole diggers, with the crew installing the posts working just behind. The posts will need to be tightly tamped into position to prevent their falling over in wet weather. The stockade should be at least six feet high above the top surface of the parapet.
13. In the area of the swivel gun bastion, the palisade in the parapet should be continued around the bastion. The swivel gun is thought to have fired over the palisade walls with a raised platform for the gun crew to stand on such as was found at Fort Prince George. Without palisades the bastions would have been weak points rather than strong defensive positions.
14. In order for machines and visitors to have access to the fort, an opening should be left for this purpose on the northeast corner of the fort, at the end of the excavated ditch. All traffic will enter and leave the fort by this opening.
15. When the covered way from Holmes' Fort to the town of Ninety Six is excavated and opened, the visitors should be routed down the covered way and into the town by the same route used by the British when they evacuated the fort in the face of the assault by "Light Horse Harry" Lee of Nathaniel Greene's American Army.
16. The next step is to interpret the position of Savage's barns that figured so prominently in the location of the 1775 and the 1780 forts. This can best be done by placing

short, creosoted round posts (salvaged telephone poles would do) in each of the original footing holes. These should be leveled on top so as to take a single hewn log stringer that can act to outline the exact position of the barns, as well as serving as a bench for visitors. Hewn logs salvaged from an old structure would do provided they were pressure treated on special order through a pressure treating plant specializing in PENTA treatment of wood. Creosoted poles will not do since this will damage the clothing of visitors. PENTA treated poles will also need some time to cure before they can be safely used for this purpose. Care should be taken to see that the height of the stringer when in position is at a comfortable level for sitting. A special statement on the interpretation of Savage's barns is in a later section of this report.

17. The buffer mound near the south log barn-blockhouse represented by the ditch at this position should be replaced against a short section of palisade as indicated by the original ditch and palisade trench. This is thought to have been a means of protecting the blockhouse in case the enemy broke through the covered way, and the garrison was trapped inside the south blockhouse. This parapet would provide defense against possible attack by way of the exposed, and somewhat vulnerable, covered way.
18. The next step in the stabilization-interpretation process is to place posts in the position of the original fence rail palisade used at Williamson's Fort in 1775. This could ideally be carried out by using old, firm, fence rails newly impregnated by pressure treating methods on special order. However, the simplest means of accomplishing this would be to order a quantity of eight foot posts pressure treated with PENTA for this purpose. Since Williamson's Fort extended under the later Holmes' Fort parapet and since it also extended outside the later Holmes' Fort stockade, to construct this fort in its full height would present a confusing picture to the visiting public. For this reason, we feel the best interpretation for these overlapping forts would be to cut the eight foot posts in half and position them in the Williamson's Fort ditch as a short interpretive palisade line only a couple of feet high. Where this fort lies beneath the Holmes' Fort parapet, the posts should be lengthened so as to present the interpretive palisade as showing only a few inches above the parapet. Interpretive signs can then aid the visitor to understanding the meaning of the short interpretive palisade in relation to the full scale version of Holmes' Fort.

19. The large postholes found inside the bastions of both Williamson's Fort and Holmes' Fort, representing the position of large posts for swivel guns, should be furnished with a large post with appropriate interpretive signs to aid the visitor in separating these two closely positioned gun positions at different periods of time.
20. The breastwork ditch thrown up at the time of Williamson's Fort upon which Holmes' Fort intruded should be left open and a small parapet placed beside it on the south side and east side so as to interpret this feature of Williamson's Fort. An appropriate sign here will be needed also to explain its relationship to the larger and more impressive Holmes' Fort parapet.
21. The topsoil above Lee's approach trench extending from near the fort toward the monument near the highway should be removed and thrown into an embankment along the east side of the ditch. This will allow the visitor to visualize this aspect of the siege, but here, too, will be needed a field exhibit, perhaps containing an interpretive sketch of Lee's men inside the approach trench just before the assault so as to provide the maximum understanding of what this feature represents in regard to Holmes' Fort and the siege of Ninety Six. This ditch as left open would not attempt to represent the excavated ditch, but only indicate through a gentle ditch and depression the original position as it might have been viewed after some period of erosion. This is necessary to avoid many maintenance and safety problems that arise from an open ditch on public property.
22. It is not recommended that the Cambridge cellar excavated in this project be interpreted at this time. Later, when more complete excavation is carried out on the site of the Cambridge houses, this or other cellars can be reopened and interpreted as ruins, similar to the manner in which cellars were handled at the Jamestown site by the National Park Service.
23. Once these steps have been taken the machines can be brought onto the site for returning the topsoil mantle to the stripped area.
24. Sod should be purchased and the Holmes' Fort parapet and ditches covered with this sod, which should be pinned into place on the steeper slopes to prevent its sliding into the ditches. Grass seed of a carpet variety should

be sewn on all the area of the site once the topsoil is smoothed and raked to receive it. At this time, the site should begin to take on some of the appearance of an historic site.

This project can be carried out at the same time an archeological expedition is executed at the town of Ninety Six provided the contracts are signed with the contractor in time to allow this. If the contractor who is to do the work is undertaking it at the same time as the archeology, the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology archeologist can conveniently supervise the execution of the goals outlined in this report.

Already the Holmes' Fort features have been exposed to the winter elements, probably without very much damage, but action should be taken soon toward stabilization-interpretation as outlined here so that the potential of the site can be fully realized. Posts need to be ordered now in order to be on hand when the work begins. Once this fort is stabilized and sodded and furnished with the interpretive palisades and exhibits, it will be a strong drawing card for public interest in the site. The development of the Holmes' Fort area in this manner will vividly illustrate the potential of the Ninety Six site generally, providing a stimulus for obtaining greater public and financial support for the goals of the Star Fort Historical Commission in the years to come.

In the original planning stages of the Ninety Six project, the archeologists emphasized the need to plan for funding to carry out interpretive stabilization and development along with the archeological

research, and we again emphasize this need. It was the understanding of the archeologists that funds for archeological research and site interpretive development were to come from a grant to the Commission for this purpose obtained from the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism. Archeological and interpretive plans have proceeded with this financial base in mind. Realistic, long range planning for research and development cannot be outlined without such a base upon which to build a firm plan. The following budget estimate is presented to the Star Fort Historical Commission as the first of several planned developmental phases for the Ninety Six Site, each to be built on the firm base provided by archeological research. The suggestions for the interpretive stabilization of Holmes' Fort at Ninety Six that have been outlined in this chapter are built on the archeological data reflected in the six maps accompanying this report. This is an excellent example of the research and development potential of historical archeology when applied to the Ninety Six Site, representing the culmination of the first major archeological season on the site. Three more seasons of archeological research, equally important to the development of the Ninety Six Site, are anticipated between now and 1975 with four more seasons of major stabilization and interpretive development to come through contracts with engineers and contractors with the goal of developing the site as a major historic landmark in America. The perceptive and sensitive individual can easily see how interpretation and development, such as has been outlined here, is far superior to bogus

history attempted through the unresearched "re-doing" of old log cabins of questionable value. Researched development of historic sites is fulfilling our responsibility to history and to the future, pseudo-history is a sham.

The question of log cabins at the Ninety Six Site has been asked since the excavation began in 1970, and the archeologists have always given the same answer; interpretation of historic sites should be done only in conformity with thorough documentary and archeological research. The Ninety Six Site is so rich in archeological and interpretive possibility that there is no reason to have to resort to hauling in nineteenth century log cabins and barns and piecing them together on the site in an attempt to provide something of interest for the visitor to look at. This concept is like trying to interest tourists in a replica of Fort Sumter built of cement blocks instead of showing them the authentic ruin! This point was strongly expressed to the Star Fort Historical Commission in a report in 1970 and read to the Commission at a meeting in that year (South 1970). Since that time, a log structure has been hauled to the site and a log rail fence built around it in order to provide the visitor something of interest to look at. Other cabins have been acquired by the Commission with the view of using them also for this purpose. This approach is NOT that recommended as a valid one for the development of the Ninety Six Site. This position has been made clear in the 1970 report, was repeated in a report to the Commission in February, 1972, is reiterated in Chapter 5 of this

present report, and has been published as a separate appeal as "The Log Cabin Syndrome" (South 1970; 1971; 1971a; 1972). This position was further supported by Chief Curator of the National Park Service, Harold Peterson, when he spoke to the Star Fort Historical Commission early in 1972, after his visit to the Ninety Six Site. In spite of this, there is still a strong desire on the part of some people to interpret the Ninety Six Site in terms of log cabins and barns with only a secondary concern for the interpretation of major historical-archeological features such as the Holmes' Fort stockade, parapet, and defensive ditches. If funds were used to stabilize and interpret the Holmes' Fort Site as recommended in this chapter of this report, the archeologists feel that this would be a far better exhibit for contributing toward an understanding of the past than creating pseudo-history through the revamping of old log cabins. More is said on this point in the following chapter of this report.

ESTIMATE OF BUDGET REQUIREMENT FOR
THE STABILIZATION-INTERPRETATION OF THE
SITE AT WILLIAMSON-HOLMES' FORT*

Cost of firing wall posts	280 ft.=280 posts @ \$2.75 each	\$ 770.00
Cost of stockade posts, Holmes' Fort	300 ft.=600 posts @ \$2.75 each	1,650.00
Cost of stockade posts, Williamson's Fort	280 ft.=280 posts @ \$2.50 each	700.00
Labor to install posts (crew of six for six wks.)	=1160 posts	2,400.00
Labor to shape parapets and ditch (six men for three weeks)		1,200.00
Cost of sod 1,500 square yards @ \$2.00 per sq. yd.		3,000.00
Labor to place sod		1,700.00
Machine rental, backhoe, front loader, earth mover, tamper, auger		2,200.00
Grass seed, fertilizer, supplies		1,000.00
Timber for barns, pressure treating, etc.		500.00
 Crew Chief (or contract engineer) (15 wks.)		 1,875.00
Assistant (8 wks.)		640.00
Crew of eight men		-----
Time: Two months		-----
Fringe benefits (FICA, etc.) for all field salaries and wages		<u>406.00</u>
 Total		 \$18,041.00

If no posts are to be used at all the project would run around \$12,521.00 for stabilization and sodding of the mound and ditch only.

The horizontally laid poles for the second firing step have not been included in this estimate, and should be added to the cost before contracts are let for the stabilization work.

*This estimate is presented as a helpful guide for letting contracts for the execution of the work by commercial contractors.

A STATEMENT ON THE POSSIBLE REBUILDING OF SAVAGE'S BARN
AT HOLMES' FORT AT NINETY SIX

As a result of a report entitled "Suggestions for the Interpretive Stabilization of Holmes' Fort at Ninety Six" presented to the Star Fort Historical Commission on January 31, 1972, (Chapter 4 of this report), a request was made by the Commission for a statement relative to the possibility of rebuilding two log barns or blockhouses in the original position as revealed by archeology. There is no documentary evidence for the appearance of the log barn and outbuildings owned in 1775 by John Savage and used at that time as defensive positions for Williamson's Fort. Through archeology, it was determined that these same two barns were used by the British at Holmes' Fort built on the same site, but at this time in 1780 and 1781, they were called "blockhouses." We do not know whether alterations to the original barns were made to make them more useful as blockhouses, or whether they were used as originally built by John Savage. Because of this, we do not know how these structures would have appeared at the Holmes' Fort period.

For these reasons we do not recommend that these structures be rebuilt at all but suggest they be marked by a single hewn log laid horizontally around each side of each barn location to simply outline it. We would urge the Commission to interpret Holmes' Fort as suggested in our previous report utilizing palisades and sod.

* By the time other excavation is carried out in the town of Ninety

Six and the remaining fortifications, we well may have further data relating to the use of log structures, and if log structures are to be built, we may have better evidence elsewhere on the site than we do at Savage's barns. We suggest, therefore, that Holmes' Fort be stabilized as suggested and await the decision to build log cabins until later in the interpretive program when a broader scope decision can be made relative to the entire site. Rebuilding log barns on the Holmes' Fort Site before the parapets are built and stabilized and before the stockade and firing walls are rebuilt is like trying to put the icing on a cake before the cake is made; the move is premature to say the least.

When the funds for the stabilization and interpretation of Holmes' Fort and Williamson's Fort are made available, the Star Fort Historical Commission should use the archeologist's report entitled "Suggestions for the Interpretive Stabilization of Holmes' Fort at Ninety Six" (Chapter 4 of this report) as a guide from which a contract should be let to a commercial contractor who will undertake to execute this phase of the development program. The Institute of Archeology and Anthropology staff will be glad to direct the execution of the stabilization program of the contractor employed by the Star Fort Historical Commission. The primary role of the archeologist on the site will not be that of engineer involved with the stabilization of Holmes' Fort, but as archeologist carrying out research on the remainder of the site and directing the stabilization of Holmes' Fort.

Regardless of the contracts let by the Star Fort Historical Commission to contractors to carry out the stabilization work at Holmes' Fort and to construct the exhibit hall at the Kosciusko tunnel, the archeologists at the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology feel a strong responsibility toward the past and toward the interpretation of the past for the visiting public. We cannot agree to the construction of structures, such as log cabins, not anchored in the documents or archeology and not related to the Ninety Six Site and will resist reconstructions not so based. Our view is that interpretation closely anchored in archeology and history should by all means be carried out, but when we step beyond these limits then the sky is the limit, and a distortion of history is likely to result. The Institute of Archeology and Anthropology is not in the business of contracting for stabilization-interpretation projects, but we do feel that if archeology is carried out by the Institute that the archeologist does have a responsibility to the sponsors of the interpretive program to insure adherence to the best controls dictated by the documents and the archeological data.

There is such a rich heritage anchored in archeology at Ninety Six, with so much to be done toward realizing this potential that it is unfortunate that there is so much misdirected interest in the dismantling and rebuilding of old log cabins. Even if good documents on the Savage barns were available, the way to proceed is not to locate an old nineteenth century log cabin and dismantle it and proceed to makeshift a replica of a barn on the Holmes'

Fort Site using local volunteer helpers who happen to be handy with a hammer and a saw. Building any structure on a historic site requires research, drafting of plans, outlining specifications to meet standards of restoration criteria, then searching for the materials with which to realize the goal.

In order to validate a log structure as to architectural and temporal authenticity and appropriateness to the planned interpretation function on an historic site, an expert on log cabin structures needs to be consulted and his recommendations followed. Such an expert is Mr. Al Honeycutt, Director of Restoration for the North Carolina Department of Archives and History, Box 1881, Raleigh, North Carolina. From Mr. Honeycutt, and from work done at Camden by the Camden Heritage Foundation, Inc., as well as by other agencies who have moved and stabilized log cabins and barns, it is clear that the cost of such work is from \$13,000 to \$35,000, the latter figure being that used by Old Salem, Inc. in North Carolina for restoration of a log cabin. The cost, however, is only one of the factors to be considered in working with log cabin construction. In my paper on "The Log Cabin Syndrome," I have outlined in detail the various types of interpretation involved with when groups undertake to use log cabins or barns in their interpretation on historic sites (South 1971a). Authentication, dating of the structure, photography of details, an architectural study, measured drawings, a statement of goals and purpose, are all part of the important background preparation necessary before a group can successfully involve

itself in moving of a log structure as an interpretive tool to events of the past. With this in mind, it can be seen why, even though the Commission has a kind offer of an old barn and the offer of a truck to haul the logs and the offer of some laborers to put the logs together again (thus saving in funds), this is still not the proper approach to the problem of utilizing a log barn in an interpretation on an historic site such as Holmes' Fort.

The archeologist's recommendation to the Star Fort Historical Commission regarding the use of log cabins on the site at Ninety Six is to proceed according to steps outlined by organizations such as the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism. A first step would be to employ a specialist in log cabins for which a fee of \$100 per day plus expenses would have to be paid. He would study the proposed buildings and make a statement on their appropriateness to the interpretation of the site of Ninety Six. If his recommendation was favorable for the moving of the log structures to the Ninety Six Site, then a study in detail would have to be made of the structures before they are moved from their original site, photographic and architectural studies would have to be made. The services of an architect who specializes in the restoration of old structures would have to be obtained for which the fee of \$100 per day plus expenses would need to be paid. The architect and/or restoration specialist would supervise the

photographic recording of the structural details of significance for the photographic report. The photographic report would involve at least 50 photographs at a cost of around \$10.00 each, another expense that would have to be met. This would have to be done by a professional photographer with a four by five press or studio type camera and not by a local volunteer with a box brownie or a 35 mm candid camera.

Once these studies were made and the reports in the hands of the Star Fort Commission, a contract for moving the structure could be made with a professional mover with each detail of moving commitment spelled out to insure the integrity of the historic structure. These are some of the considerations involved in the proper approach to the use of log cabin structures on historic sites. In order to provide a more detailed statement of attitude and policy regarding the development of historic sites, the following pages (6 through 20) from a January 1971 report by the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism are included for the use of the Star Fort Historical Commission. This report is entitled "Proposed Policy for South Carolina State Historic Parks and Sites" and has been made the policy of that department. This report should be used as a guideline for any historic site development with each step followed carefully by the group involved in historic site development and interpretation. Any such group should work closely with Mr. Janson Cox, Chief Historian for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

PRT 

PROPOSED POLICY FOR SOUTH CAROLINA'S
STATE HISTORIC PARKS AND SITES

PREPARED FOR THE STATE PARKS
RECREATION AND TOURISM COMMISSION

JANUARY 1997

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INTRODUCTION

The State Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission Chairman designated the PRT staff to prepare a policy or philosophy that should be considered by the State in accepting historic sites or other properties for preservation and development as state parks or state-operated facilities.

With recommendations from other Division staff members within the Department and staff members of the Department of Archives and History, the History and Historic Interpretation Branch of the Division of Parks and Recreation has formulated this policy. The following policy is hereby submitted for adoption by the Commission to fulfill the aforementioned objectives.

PROPOSED POLICY

1. It is the policy that state historic sites shall be located within the geographical boundaries of South Carolina and shall be designated on the basis of the following criteria:

(i) The site or structure shall be closely associated or identified with events that have shaped South Carolina history in a prominent way, or illustrate effectively the broad cultural, social, political, economic or military patterns of South Carolina history;

or

(ii) The site or structure shall be prominently associated with the life of a great South Carolina personage;

or

(iii) The site or structure shall be prominently associated with an important movement in South Carolina history;

or

(iv) The site or structure shall shed light on or illustrate effectively the culture of a prehistoric people, or shall be associated with important archaeological discoveries which have affected ideas and concepts to a major degree;

or

(v) The structure shall embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type exceptionally valuable for the study of a style, or method of construction, or its period, or be a notable example of the work of an early master builder, designer or architect.

If the site or structure has religious importance, in order to be eligible it shall also be significant in other fields of South Carolina history and shall be no longer in active use by a religious order or congregation.

The potential for illustrating South Carolina history shall be high--that is, the site of structure shall be such that it will be possible for the visitor to gain an understanding of the history with which it is associated.

The site shall possess integrity; that is, it shall be known to be what it is represented to be, and shall include the original site. A further important consideration would be the extent of original materials and workmanship remaining. Intangible elements of feeling and association, though immeasurable, may be important factors in weighing criteria.

2. It is the policy to commemorate only places of national and statewide historical importance, and of these to preserve or restore only those which illustrate in an exceptional way the history of South Carolina.
3. It is the policy that state historic parks and sites should present a comprehensive picture of all major aspects of South Carolina history and should be planned to achieve an appropriate geographic and thematic balance.
4. It is the policy to prepare a long-range state program under which regional and thematic priorities will be established and a comprehensive program laid down for the simultaneous creation of a series of new state historic parks and sites and the development of existing parks and sites to their full potential in accordance with these priorities. Wherever possible and within the availability of funds, land for new parks, and to round out existing parks will be acquired as soon as possible.
5. It is the policy that comprehensive and carefully-conceived provisional master plans shall be prepared as soon as possible for each state historic park and site.
6. It is the policy with respect to a site recommended for preservation to carry out an exhaustive study of the site's potential in order to fit the site to the overall state program.

7. It is the policy to exclude from any state historic sites program: churches and other buildings still used for religious purposes, graves, disasters and disaster areas, and monuments situated outside of South Carolina.
8. It is the policy in restoration and reconstruction of historic structures that line, level and fabric shall be as true to the original as possible, and that departure from this rule shall be justified only by over-riding necessity or for the purpose of substantially increasing the life expectancy of the structure, and only then when modern materials and techniques can be effectively concealed. Restoration or reconstruction will in most instances be carried out on the original site.
9. It is the policy that no plan for development of an historic place shall be implemented until every reasonable step has been taken to determine its potential through documentary, architectural and archaeological research, and further, that no development activity shall take place until relevant research of the above nature has been carried out.
10. It is the policy to provide historic parks and sites as required with effective interpretive facilities for the purpose of illustrating and explaining history in such a way as to enhance the visitors' appreciation of state history.
11. It is the policy to publish and where appropriate sell leaflets, guidebooks, related booklets of different kinds for the guidance of visitors to historic parks and sites and also more fundamental reports resulting from its research and restoration activities in order to disseminate the knowledge derived from the prosecution of the South Carolina historic sites program as widely as possible in South Carolina and elsewhere.

12. It is the policy where necessary and feasible to acquire land to create buffer zones around state historic parks and sites to preserve and enhance their historical value.
13. It is the policy to permit special events staged by outside organizations to be held in state historic parks and sites only when the events are closely related to the theme of the park and will not jeopardize its historical environment or its enjoyment by the public.
14. It is the policy to promote public interest in state historic parks and sites as historical and educational attractions, and to use all effective types of communication media for this purpose in an integrated program.
15. It is the policy to co-operate with state and local education authorities and encourage organized class visits by students to suitable local parks and sites.
16. It is the policy to preserve state historic sites by entering into agreements with responsible parties, wherever such agreements are feasible.
17. It is the policy to leave permanent visitor accommodation to be provided outside state historic parks and sites by the private sector of the economy.
18. It is the policy to provide nature trails and information on local flora and fauna. Picnicking and camping may be permitted and facilities provided, where the terrain and location will not adversely affect the historic environment.

19.

It is the policy, if and when the demand arises, to allow the sale of suitable souvenirs, in state historic parks and sites, and to permit the sale of light refreshments in remote parks or sites far from ordinary tourist facilities and in major parks requiring a visit of several hours, provided that in all instances the sale of souvenirs or light refreshments can be completely controlled and arranged without detriment to the harmony of the historic environment.

20.

It is the policy to charge admission fees at suitably developed state historic parks and sites and where revenue will exceed the costs of collection, the amount of the fee to vary from park to park depending on the scale of development and restoration in each park and the charges for students and children to be minimal.

Criteria for Proposed Policy

1. Subject: Designating State Historic Sites

According to Section 51-76(d) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, "The Commission's plan shall also include the preservation and perpetuation of our State's rich historical heritage by acquiring and owning, recognizing, marking and publicizing areas, sites, buildings and other landmarks and items of national and state-wide historical interest and significance to the history of our State. No area, site, building, or other landmark shall be acquired for its historical significance without the approval of the Commission of Archives and History."

These criteria need to be further clarified for the guidance of the Department and the information of the public. Obviously, only sites and structures which illustrate in an exceptional way the history of South Carolina should be selected. While undoubtedly sites in other states are associated with events of significance to South Carolina, practical considerations would indicate that state historic sites should be interpreted to mean sites within the geographic boundaries of South Carolina.

Policy

It is the policy that state historic sites shall be located within the geographical boundaries of South Carolina and shall be designated on the basis of the following criteria:

- (i) The site or structure shall be closely associated or identified with events that have shaped South Carolina history in a prominent way, or illustrate effectively the broad cultural, social, political, economic or military patterns of South Carolina history;

or

- (ii) The site or structure shall have been prominently associated with the life of a great South Carolina personage;

or

- (iii) The site or structure shall have been prominently associated with an important movement in South Carolina history;

or

- (iv) The site or structure shall shed light on or illustrate effectively the culture of a prehistoric people, or shall be associated with important archaeological discoveries which have affected ideas and concepts to a major degree;

or

- (v) The structure shall embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type exceptionally valuable for the study of a style or method of construction or its period or be a notable example of the work of an early master builder, designer or architect.

If the site or structure has religious importance in order to be eligible it shall also be significant in other fields of South Carolina history and shall be no longer in active use by a religious order or congregation.

The potential for illustrating South Carolina history shall be high-- that is the site or structure shall be such that it will be possible for the visitor to gain an understanding of the history with which it is associated.

The site shall possess integrity; that is, it shall be known to be what it is represented to be, and shall include the original site. A further important consideration would be the extent of original materials and workmanship remaining. Intangible elements of feeling and association, though immeasurable, may be important factors in weighing criteria.

2. Subject: Selection and Establishment of State Historic Parks and Sites

For the purposes of definition, a state historic park shall generally be considered to be an area with or without structures of major historic significance suitable in size for development as a park with effective interpretive displays. A state historic site shall be any area or structure considered to be of major historic significance.

Selection of places to be commemorated as state historic sites and parks must depend, in the first instance, on their importance in South Carolina history. However, a consideration of almost equal importance is how will such sites illustrate that history. Of several sites of equal or about equal importance the ones with the greatest potential for illustrating history should be preserved. This calls for judgment of the kind and condition of historic structures involved, as well as the degree to which they have been altered, and the availability of artifacts with which to furnish them.

Geographical location may also be important. Very remote sites may call only for preservation or stabilization, with little or no development for many years. Similar sites separated by distance may provide illustrations

of history or architecture which represent regional contributions to state history of such importance that would justify their preservation.

State historic parks may generally be established in either of two ways. First, an existing major historic site of suitable size may be selected and its potential realized to a fuller degree by the undertaking of extensive restoration and/or faithful reconstruction of buildings, and by the development of comprehensive interpretive display facilities and the creation of a visitor center. Second, the same kind of extensive development may take place on a significant new area of suitable size which has hitherto not been designated as a state historic site.

Policy

It is the policy to commemorate only places of national and state-wide historical importance, and of these to preserve or restore only those which illustrate in an exceptional way the history of South Carolina.

State historic parks may be created either from existing state historic sites of suitable size whose potential for illustrating South Carolina history is very high, or in new areas whose historic potential is similarly high.

3. Subject: Need for Comprehensive and Balanced Historic Sites Program

The historic sites program as it has developed over the years has not been as comprehensive and balanced as would seem desirable. Sites have generally been acquired and developed on the basis of a specific set of circumstances. An analysis of existing historic parks and sites would show several examples of imbalance.

The historic parks and sites program must therefore achieve a proper geographic and thematic balance. It should give suitable coverage to important themes such as the Indians and the colonization of South Carolina, and to social, cultural, economic and prehistoric themes as well as to military history. It is also essential that such a program should be planned with a view to achieving adequate and appropriate geographical representation across the state.

Policy

It is the policy that state historic parks and sites should present a comprehensive picture of all major aspects of South Carolina history and should be planned to achieve an appropriate geographic and thematic balance.

4. Subject: Development of Long-Range State Program

A proper thematic and regional balance will require a long-range program prepared on a state basis.

Such a long-range program will involve setting thematic and regional priorities. The program will cover both the greater restoration and development of existing historic parks and sites, the necessary creation of a considerable number of new historic parks and sites. In accordance with the agreed thematic and regional priorities, the establishment of new parks will take place simultaneously with the full development of appropriate existing parks.

In this connection, land needed for new parks, or property to round out existing parks to permit better interpretation, should be acquired at the earliest possible moment in order to avoid probable continuing escalation in land prices. Actual restoration can then if necessary take place at a later date.

Additional skilled staff and considerable increases in budgets will be required to carry out this new long-range state program. The difficulties of recruiting and where necessary training suitable skilled staff and the need to spread the additional financial requirements over a reasonable period will probably necessitate a program phased over 10 years.

Policy

It is the policy to prepare a long-range state program under which regional and thematic priorities will be established and a comprehensive program laid down for the simultaneous creation of a series of new state historic parks and sites and the development of existing parks and sites to their full potential in accordance with these priorities. Wherever possible and within the availability of funds, land for new parks and to round out existing parks will be acquired as soon as possible.

5. Subject: Provisional Master Plans for State Historic Parks and Sites

The historic sites program has not as a rule in the past benefited from long-range and well-conceived development plans for each park. Too many parks and sites have been developed on a short-term and largely "ad hoc" basis and as a result their full potential has not been realized. Provisional master plans governing the phased development of all aspects of each state historic park and site should therefore be prepared as soon as possible.

Policy

It is the policy that comprehensive and carefully-conceived provisional master plans shall be prepared as soon as possible for each state historic park and site.

6. Subject: Methods of Preservation

Not every site of state historical importance lends itself to the same kind of preservation program. This will depend on a variety of factors, such as the following: How important was the person, event or place? How extensive are the structures or ruins, if any? What is their physical condition? How well have original features survived? Does the site lend itself to interpretation? Can artifacts be found to furnish or illustrate it? How accessible is it? Do we actually know enough about the site to interpret it satisfactorily? The policy should therefore be a flexible one and a plan for preservation should only be developed after answers to these and similar questions are known.

Policy

It is the policy with respect to a site recommended for preservation to carry out an exhaustive study of the site's potential in order to fit the site to the overall state program.

7. Subject: Exclusion of Certain Items from State Historic Sites Program

The items and themes not considered suitable for inclusion in the state historic sites program are: churches and other buildings still used for religious purposes; graves; disaster areas; and monuments situated outside of South Carolina.

Policy

It is the policy to exclude from any state historic sites program: churches and other buildings still used for religious purposes; graves; disasters and disaster areas; and monuments situated outside of South Carolina.

8. Subject: Standard for Structural Restoration and
 Reconstruction

Restoration is the process of repairing physical deterioration in a structure by the use of materials and techniques, either original or as close to the original as possible. Reconstruction is the process of rebuilding from plans a replica of the original structure by the same methods. Both of these may be considered desirable objectives with which it may not always be within our power to comply. Cost may be prohibitive, materials may be impossible to come by, and furthermore it may be possible to increase the life expectancy of a structure by introducing materials and techniques unavailable to the original builder. Consideration for visitor enjoyment of the site may also justify the use of special techniques, in lighting for example.

The important consideration, if one has to compromise with history, is to do it as unobtrusively as possible. If it is not possible to restore or reconstruct with modern materials and techniques in such a way as to conceal their use from the visitor, it is generally better not to try. The authenticity or faithful reconstruction of the original is the single most important asset in providing educational enjoyment of a state historic site. Departure from the use of authentic materials and methods must not be permitted however, except for just cause, and only after every effort possible for their use by the principle enunciated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation: "It is better to preserve than repair, better to repair than restore, better to restore than reconstruct."

Restoration or reconstruction should in all instances be carried out on the original site. Existing historic structures will not be moved to new locations in other areas for restoration purposes, unless there is no feasible alternative for their preservation, when their importance is other than in direct relation to their location, or when desirable for interpretive purposes. "As-found" drawings of existing structures should be made wherever possible before restoration or reconstruction begins.

Policy

It is the policy in restoration and reconstruction of historic structures that line, level and fabric shall be as true to the original as possible, and that departure from this rule shall be justified only by overriding necessity or for the purpose of substantially increasing the life expectancy of the structure, and only then when modern materials and techniques can be effectively concealed. Restoration or reconstruction will in most instances be carried out on the original site.

9. Subject: Research

The foundation of any sound development program is research - documentary, architectural and archaeological. Without knowing as much as

there is to learn about an historic place it is virtually impossible even to forecast its potential or to work out a master development plan. Implementation of a master plan cannot proceed satisfactorily until the physical character of a structure and its full history are known. It is a fundamental principle that to be useful, research must precede actual development work. The reverse order would not only result in an attempt to develop without adequate evidence but also cause the destruction of much evidence before it had been revealed and understood. Furthermore, it should be borne in mind that once inaccurate restoration or reconstruction has been made, it is difficult, if not impossible, to repair the error. The Department must be capable of proving the authenticity or faithfulness of its work.

Of equal importance with research on specific potential historic sites is research on a particular theme or aspect of South Carolina history. Thematic studies are needed in order to enable the Department to assess the relative merits of different historic sites to illustrate a theme, or to determine the extent of gaps in the over-all historic sites program and assist in the planning of projects that may be considered desirable in filling such gaps.

Both thematic studies and research on individual potential historic sites may be undertaken by research staff within the Department itself, or may be carried out under contract by a qualified outside source such as a university history department or an individual historian.

Policy

It is the policy that no plan for development of an historic place shall be implemented until every reasonable step has been taken to determine its potential through documentary, architectural and archaeological research, and, further, that no development activity shall take place until relevant research of the above nature has been carried out.

10. Subject: Interpretation

The function of interpretation is to create understanding by explaining a site to the public. It is a job of communication. Whether visual or oral technique of interpretation is used, its purpose is to render more meaningful the significance of a particular site. The selection of the technique will depend on many factors, and fortunately there are almost as many techniques as potential situations. However, the objective in every technique is to reduce the spoken or written word to the minimum - to let the visual facts speak for themselves.

For example, let us start by considering an empty room in a house. One could identify it by means of a simple label, on the one hand, or, on the other hand, by furnishing it with the appropriate period furniture. It has been said that a picture is worth a thousand words. If this is so,

then a three dimensional re-creation of the real thing would be worth many thousands. Besides heightening the dramatic effect the furnished room communicates something of the culture of the time and the personalities of the people who occupied it. In this context the word "restoration" applies only to the actual fabric of the building. A building furnished or equipped to period is referred to as a "living display," and where human beings are added to the picture it is referred to as an "animated display."

The purpose of the living or animated display technique is to provide historical atmosphere. It attempts to re-create as faithfully as possible an impression of the life and times of a selected period. It is limited as an interpretive device in the same way as one frame from a motion picture reel is limited: it is unable to provide the true perspective by which the broad patterns of history may be understood; or, to say it even simpler, it lacks background.

To overcome this limitation it is generally necessary to resort to more flexible techniques. The best of these is the interpretive center (which may often be combined usefully with a reception or orientation center). The interpretive center attempts to add the dimensions of time and space which are denied the visitor viewing the historic house. It combines carefully selected three dimensional and flat objects (artifacts, documents, paintings) with illustrations and text to tell the visitor the Why and How of history as well as the What, and will probably make extensive use of modern electronic interpretive techniques.

The reception or orientation center is a useful adjunct to the interpretive center and is necessary for all complex sites whether or not they include interpretive centers. Besides providing rest rooms and general information facilities, it usually includes simple exhibits which orient the visitor geographically and historically to the whole site and its environs.

Field interpretation is carried out in large and complex sites, such as battlefields. It normally uses simple devices, such as signs and trailside exhibits, to provide for the walking visitor auxiliary points of reference apart from the main interpretive and visitor centers, but may also employ some electronic techniques.

Policy

It is the policy to provide historic parks and sites as required with effective interpretive facilities for the purpose of illustrating and explaining history in such a way as to enhance the visitors' appreciation of state history.

11. Subject: Publications

Publications are an important part of the interpretive program. They are also necessary both for the better understanding of historic sites and parks, and for the creation of greater public interest in them. There is, after all, small point in developing a comprehensive historic sites program at considerable expense if South Carolinians and visitors from other states are not encouraged to see them.

A properly conceived publications program will perform several different functions and calls for several types of publication. Some eight separate kinds of publications are desired:

- (i) Attractive, well-designed and appealing leaflets in at least two and preferably four colors for each park or major site, in a simple but imaginative and exciting format, each to be available free in considerable quantities, and each designed to tell in simple terms the story of that park, how to reach it by road and what to see on arrival.
- (ii) Equally attractive guidebooks for each park, again in an imaginative and exciting standard format and well illustrated with photographs and plans, to be sold and designed to tell the story of the historical significance of that park in greater depth, to describe in more detail the different features of the park and to set it in the proper perspective of South Carolina history. In certain instances in major parks the production of specially written and illustrated guidebooks for sale to children may also be justified.
- (iii) A somewhat simplified and less costly version of (ii) above, designed for students and to be given away free either in answer to individual written inquiries for such material or to parties of students visiting parks and sites as part of their school curriculum.
- (iv) Regional leaflets, to be a larger edition of (i) and with the same attractive appearance, designed to describe all the historic parks and major historic sites in one area and to tell how to find each park and how to get from one to another, to be available free in large quantities.
- (v) Books and booklets on major South Carolina historical themes attractively produced and illustrated and written for the general public and containing a distillation of the most important features of the thematic studies and other research carried out by the Department and to be sold at appropriate historic parks and regular retail bookstores.
- (vi) A major historic parks series, to be produced over a period of years one for each major historic site, which would primarily be designed for school and university libraries

and similar readership. The series, which would be in two parts, one part containing detailed information on the history of the restoration of the park and good illustrations of its present appearance, and the other part consisting of a contributed appreciation by someone, preferably a distinguished historian, qualified to describe its historic significance.

- (vii) Monographs on special subjects drawing upon the points of the Department's research efforts, e.g. a study of South Carolina ceramics as revealed in archaeological research or a detailed analysis of the different research steps and programs involved in the reconstruction of Old Dorchester, designed primarily for serious post-graduate and graduate students in an attractive standard format, well-illustrated and written with distinction by experts of repute.
- (viii) Occasional papers on the results of different archaeological or historical research projects, again designed for serious students and university libraries and again produced in an attractive standard format, but probably more simply and less expensively than the monographs referred to above.

Policy

It is the policy to publish and where appropriate sell leaflets, guidebooks, related booklets of different kinds for the guidance of visitors to historic parks and sites and also more fundamental reports resulting from its research and restoration activities in order to disseminate the knowledge derived from the prosecution of the South Carolina historic sites program as widely as possible in South Carolina and elsewhere.

12. Subject: Buffer Zones

It is important that visitors to state historic parks and sites should wherever possible not be distracted from the appreciation of the historical environment and the historical theme of the park or site by the obvious or violent intrusion of modern developments such as service stations or supermarkets. Where appropriate, therefore, every effort should be made to acquire enough land around a park or site to create a suitable buffer zone to minimize these intrusions.

Policy

- * It is the policy where necessary and feasible to acquire land to create buffer zones around state historic parks and sites to preserve and enhance their historical value.

13. Subject: Use of Historic Parks and Sites for Special Events

In some state historic parks special events having little or no relationship to the historical themes of the parks in question have been staged by outside organizations for many years, with jeopardy to the local historical environment. In such instances, when the park reaches an appropriately advanced stage of restoration and interpretation the Parks' Director may authorize the Park Superintendent to give ample and reasonable notice to the organization concerned that the special event may no longer take place in the park. Where the special event has a close relationship to the theme of the park and does not jeopardize the historical environment or public enjoyment of the park, the Parks' Director may approve its continuance.

Policy

It is the policy to permit special events staged by outside organizations to be held in state historic parks and sites only when the events are closely related to the theme of the park and will not jeopardize its historical environment or its enjoyment by the public.

14. Subject: Public Information

As the state agency responsible for a publicly oriented program of research, preservation and interpretation of important historic sites, the Department bears a responsibility for public information activities related thereto. As the program and public interest grow, the need for a comprehensive public information program will grow. It is important that the public should be made fully aware of our growing number of significant historic parks and sites and encouraged to visit them.

A public information program can take a number of forms. The most obvious is the conveyance of information in oral or written form right at the parks and sites; sale of related literature at park reception center sales desks is another. The medium of the periodical - daily, weekly or monthly - will be used. Radio has always been effective, but today few media can compare in impact and coverage with television. Films and slides will also be utilized, for use by members of the Department or for loan or purchase by education authorities, service clubs, church groups, etc. In addition, where possible talks will be given to leading local clubs and groups in the more important centers.

Policy

It is the policy to promote public interest in state historic parks and sites as historical and educational attractions, and to use all effective types of communication media for this purpose in an integrated program.

15. Subject: Co-operation with Education Authorities

Visits to properly developed state historic sites with modern, effective interpretive display facilities can do much to bring South Carolina history alive for students. The presentation free of charge of well-prepared brochures or booklets on the history of each park to all students at the end of their visits to such parks will further enhance the value of these visits.

Policy

It is the policy to co-operate with state and local education authorities and encourage organized class visits by students to suitable local parks and sites.

16. Subject: Co-operative Arrangements with Other Bodies

Not all sites of state historical importance are so exceptional as to justify operation and maintenance by the State of South Carolina. The interest of other bodies (historical societies, municipalities, etc.) sometimes make it convenient to arrange for joint preservation. In some cases state-owned sites may be turned over for use by other bodies in return for a commitment to maintain them for a certain term. In other cases sites owned by other parties may be restored through contributions by the State of South Carolina in return for guarantees that for a certain term they will be operated for public purposes. In all instances a plaque should be erected in a suitable and prominent location to commemorate the state historic importance of the site and, where appropriate, to make mention of the Department's participation.

Policy

It is the policy to preserve state historic sites by entering into agreements with responsible parties, wherever such agreements are feasible.

17. Subject: Permanent Visitor Accommodations

Historic parks and sites are not the kind of attractions which call for overnight accommodations within their boundaries. Most sites are adjacent to built-up areas where hotels and motels are available. *Even where large developments are under way, such as at Charles Town, it is considered to be more in the public interest to protect the historic environment by keeping hotels and motels out of the park.

Policy

It is the policy to leave permanent visitor accommodation to be provided outside state historic parks and sites by the private sector of the economy.

18. Subject: Picnicking and Camping

The appreciation of history is the prime purpose of the establishment of state historic parks or sites. Where the size and nature of the terrain are suitable, nature trails may be established and brochures on flora and fauna prepared for visitors. The provision of trails and the production of inexpensive booklets on the flora and fauna would contribute effectively to the achievement of one of the economic objectives of the park, namely the attraction of visitors and their encouragement to stay as long as possible.

Picnicking is a natural part of recreational travel today, and unnecessary disappointment and hardship would be caused to visitors if picnicking facilities were not provided.

Camping presents very different problems, in that camping facilities are potentially harmful to historic environment and, furthermore, almost all existing historic parks are of such limited size that there would be no room for the provision of camping facilities. Necessary facilities for camping should therefore be weighed in respect to terrain, location, and historic environment prior to being provided.

Policy

It is the policy to provide nature trails and information on local flora and fauna. Picnicking and camping may be permitted and facilities provided, where the terrain and location will not adversely affect the historic environment.

19. Subject: Souvenir and Refreshment Concessions

It is a natural expectation of many visitors to historic parks and sites today to be able to take away some reminder of their visit. The control of the sale of souvenirs can, however, present serious problems, and uncontrolled sales can impair and even defeat the preservation of the historical environment and atmosphere of a park. If souvenirs are sold

sufficiently advanced state of development or restoration to warrant the charging of admission. The amount of the admission charge will vary from park to park and will depend on the scale of the park and the extent of its restoration and development. In all cases very low charges should be made for students and children of 16 years and under. For organized school class visits under the supervision of a teacher, the fee may be waived.

Policy

It is the policy to charge admission fees at suitably developed state historic parks and sites and where revenue will exceed the costs of collection, the amount of the fee to vary from park to park depending on the scale of development and restoration in each park and the charges for students and children to be minimal.

Reflecting this policy statement of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism is the "Historic Preservation-Capital Improvements Project Agreement" which is signed by representatives of the group undertaking development and interpretation on historic sites and state officials. This agreement insures that both the local developers and state officials have a clear understanding of the procedures involved in historic site development and interpretation, resulting in the striving toward mutual goals. This agreement is included here for the benefit of the reader interested in the proper procedure to be carried out in the process of historic site preservation and interpretation.

The importance of following these procedures cannot be overemphasized, for it is through them that state funding for local projects is often funnelled, just as Federal funding is channelled through the office of Robert A. Liner, Jr., Projects Coordinator for the Upper Savannah Regional Planning and Development Council. The representative for the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism in such matters is Janson Cox, Chief Historian.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT AGREEMENT

(Name of Applicant and Project)

HEREBY AGREES THAT THEY will comply with all requirements imposed by the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism.

The term "historic preservation" includes the protection, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in South Carolina history, architecture, archeology, or culture.

The amounts appropriated and made available to said Applicant will be used for Capital Improvements in coordination, advice, and guidance established by a designated State representative.

The beneficiary of assistance under this Agreement shall keep such records which fully disclose the disposition by the beneficiary of the proceeds of such assistance, the total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which such assistance is given or used, and the amount and nature of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources, and such other records as will facilitate an effective audit.

In order to assure consistency in policies and actions under this Agreement with other related historic preservation programs and activities, and to assure coordination of the planning and development, the following regulations are hereby set forth:

1. Planning -- This volume will include the following elements:
 - (A) a statement of preservation philosophy, as it will be reflected on a state, county, and local level;
 - (B) a statement of the method employed in preparing the plan;
 - (C) a statement indicating the relationship of the project to other historic preservation planning efforts taking place or proposed within the State;
 - (D) a finalized master plan of the project, before said Agreement was executed and an updated plan upon completion of the project under this aspect of the Agreement.
2. Measured Drawings -- This volume will include the following elements:

- (A) a set of drawings of existing structures to be restored (minutely dimensioned, copiously annotated, including structural details, and attention to irregularities), so that a literal reconstruction of each element is possible;
 - (B) such drawings, based upon measurements of the subject, are to be accurate, to scale, show proportions accurately, are measurable, highly informative, and emphasize parts according to their historic importance;
 - (C) aspects which cannot be portrayed by photographs (as: floor plans, general sections) or those normally hidden from the eye (as: construction details) are to be recorded by drawings;
 - (D) requirements and instructions outlined by the Historic American Buildings Survey manual on Recording Historic Buildings will be strictly adhered to.
3. Photographs and Graphic Material -- This volume will include the following elements:
- (A) a set of photographs to supplement drawings by showing variations in texture, tone, and weathering of materials, intricate forms, ornamental details, and the actual appearance of the structure in its environment;
 - (B) copies of old photographs and other representations of the structure as it was in earlier stages;
 - (C) a set of photographs showing every aspect of the building (before, during and after restoration);
 - (D) written record to accompany each photograph;
 - (E) professional quality photographs processed for archival permanence, sizes: 5" x 7" and/or 8" x 10".
4. Documentation -- This volume will include the following elements:
- (A) history based on documentary sources and architectural description, with bibliographical citation;
 - (B) information relating to the original structure and changes to it through the years;
 - (C) information relating to human associations and events.
5. Archeological Research -- This volume will include the following elements:
- (A) a complete plan of all archeological excavations previously accomplished, if any, together with the analyses of the results of those excavations;
 - (B) a complete plan of anticipated archeological excavations to be accomplished showing methods of examination of all subsurface features, including cellars, foundations, basements, wells, and any other known or suspected subsurface features, and the plan for analyses and interpretation of the resulting excavations;

- (C) a written statement from the State Archeologist as to the feasibility, competence, and completeness of the plan for archeological excavations, analyses, and interpretation;
 - (D) a time schedule that will permit adequate time for such excavation before disturbance of the ground by restoration or other activities connected with the project.
6. Submission of Volumes -- In order that the State may obtain assurance that the project will meet outlined requirements, preliminary drafts of respective plans will be prepared for informal review prior to undertaking work. The preliminary drafts will be treated as confidential State documents. When the volumes are submitted for final review and permanent files, within twelve months of completion of said project, they will be considered a public document.

THIS ASSURANCE is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining State financial assistance which was approved before such date. The Applicant recognizes and agrees that such State financial assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this assurance, and that the State shall reserve the right to seek judicial enfor[c]ement of this assurance. This assurance is binding on the Applicant, its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or persons whose signature appear below are authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the Applicant.

Dated

Applicant

By _____
Authorized State Official

* _____
Applicant's Mailing Address

EXPLORATORY ARCHEOLOGY AT THE STOCKADE FORT OF 1776
and
CRUGER'S FORT AROUND THE TOWN OF NINETY SIX (38GN4)

After completion of the month long expedition at the Holmes' Fort Site, a new project was undertaken at the site of the town of Ninety Six. This exploratory archeology project was under the field supervision of Alan DeVorsey with a crew of four men. The goals of the project were to follow the palisade ditch extending from the jail ditch toward the southeast and to explore the area of the southwest quadrant of the town as well as the southeast quadrant. The purpose was to outline as many features in these areas as possible in the three weeks scheduled for the project so that a better evaluation could be made toward planning the major expedition on this site.

The west palisade extending from the jail toward the southeast was followed by cutting slot trenches at right angles to the palisade trench. This trench continued for 170 feet and made an obtuse angle toward the east where it continued for another 170 feet, at which point it came to an end (Fig. 19). This discovery was something of a surprise because it had been assumed that the west palisade trench would connect with the south trench found in the 1970 exploratory archeology project. However, this trench parallels the previous south trench 40 feet north of it. Whether this ending of the ditch represents a gate or whether it continues is not known, and only more work will answer this question.

In the 1970 season the northwest quadrant of the town site had been explored, and a large cellar hole was found that was conjectured to be one of the blockhouses mentioned by Cruger as flanking the town (Fig. 19). This cellar hole and the burned firing wall trench and large ditch in front of that appeared to be a major defensive corner, and the fact that there was no bastion projection at the corner tended to point to a blockhouse here.

In the northeast quadrant a palisade trench was found to form a small bastion only 18 feet square, but this had been intruded on by a larger fortification ditch. The smaller palisade trench and bastion had been interpreted as having been the work of Cruger with the larger ditch the work of Haldane when he came to the site in December, 1780, and ordered some alterations including the construction of the Star Fort bastion.

On the map made of this work in the north part of the town site in 1970, it was conjectured that a palisade and possible fort ditch would be found to extend on toward the south on the opposite side of the road to Augusta in the southwest quadrant of the town. The first slot cut by Alan DeVorse and his small crew did indeed locate this palisade and fort ditch (Fig. 19). However, the second slot located a bastion for the palisade trench, which proved to be a match for the northeast one discovered in the previous season. The palisade trench was followed toward the east until a disturbance, appearing to be a cellar, was discovered. The area enclosed by this two-bastioned stockaded fort was 190 by 220 feet.

The large fortification ditch was 11 feet wide and intruded on the small palisade trench as it had done at the northeast corner of the town. A few feet to the south of the bastion of the stockade fort the large fort ditch angled toward the west then narrowed and continued on toward the south. After continuing for 70 feet, it again made a turn toward the east, forming a large 70-foot long bastion, and continuing to near the center of the depression of the Charleston Road (Fig. 19).

From 12 to 14 feet inside this ditch, a firing step trench was located along the west side, as well as along the south fort ditch. A small, rectangular pit in the large bastion may represent a storage cellar or magazine (136), and a rectangular area, two by nine feet, with a burned wooden floor (135) may also represent a storage area, or possibly a burial. Detailed answers to these questions may come from excavation of these features when funds are again available for archeology. No bastion was found at the southeast corner of the area of the fort, but one has been conjectured, and this too will be explored fully in the next archeological project on the site.

From this information revealed in this exploratory project, it becomes clear that two separate forts are involved, one a palisaded fort with two bastions, and the other, later one overlying the earlier one, but built for defense against artillery. With two forts definitely involved, we find references to the Cherokee uprising of July 1, 1776, of particular interest. During this uprising the people were said

to have crowded into small forts for momentary preservation (Fig. 19).

Henry Lee, in his memoirs published in 1812, states that the town of Ninety Six had been slightly fortified for defense against the Indians and that after the arrival of the British, the fort was considerably strengthened (Fig. 19). This provides us with an explanation for this two-bastioned stockade fort around the houses in the town of Ninety Six. The fort was definitely not there in 1775 during the engagement of Williamson's Fort for no mention was made of such a fort. Since Lee said a fort had been built for protection against the Indians, which was added to by the British, we have documentary evidence for what has been discovered archeologically.

The 1776 stockade was used on the outside of the main fort ditch on the west and north sides of the works; while on the east side, the main fort ditch dug by Cruger was outside the 1776 stockade with the stockade apparently forming the firing wall along this side. A document is available stating that Cruger threw up a bank, parapet high, from the fort ditch around the stockade to strengthen it (Fig. 19), which is seen to have been the case on the east side of the fortification. The south wall of the 1776 fort was crossed by the large fortification ditches on the east and the west sides in order to make the 1780 fort much larger than the anti-Indian one had been. Further details of the relationship between this most fascinating hybrid 1776 and 1780 fort will be revealed in a future archeological season. The outline of the plans for

The Fortified Jail

The jail site consists of a brick filled cellar hole through which a trench was cut some years ago by Dr. William Edwards, surrounded by a fortification ditch that appears to be accompanied by a palisade trench. The goals of the project here would be to reveal the entire outline of the cellar hole and any associated footings and features as well as excavating the jail and the fortification ditch and the area between it and the cellar hole to reveal any features there. The soil excavated from the fort ditch would be thrown out to the inside to form a parapet in the original position and to recover artifacts in the process. Stabilization of this parapet and ditch would need to be undertaken, but this is not included in this proposal. Installing drains in the jail cellar, to carry off rain water, stabilizing the brick walls that may be found with new bricks, installing protective barriers for safety from falls into the open cellar hole if it is used as an interpretive exhibit are all factors to be considered in a stabilization-interpretation proposal to be undertaken following completion of the archeological excavation.

The North Blockhouse

The 1970 exploratory project at the site of the north blockhouse revealed a large cellar and accompanying fortification ditches and palisade trenches. This area needs to be more completely
* stripped and all features revealed in their entirety. Some machines

AN OUTLINE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION
TO NINETY SIX FROM MAY 22, 1972 TO JULY 21, 1972*

The 1972 archeological season at Ninety Six is seen as a year of major activity in order to prepare successfully for the commemorative events of 1975 through 1981. The proposed archeological investigation is tentatively scheduled for two months, with other work to be carried out beyond this point provided funds will allow, probably with a reduced crew.

The work is seen to be most effectively executed by means of several field parties working on particular projects at the same time, with each party supervised immediately by a crew chief and a right hand man to assist him with data collecting. Stanley South, Archeologist, will supervise the entire project through the crew chiefs and see that the goals are met with the highest degree of competence. Separate crews of six men each besides the crew chief and assistant will be assigned to (1) the area of the fortified jail, (2) the town of Ninety Six to the east of the Charleston Road and the 1776 fort and the British fort of 1780, plus (3) the town west of the Charleston Road, and (4) the blockhouse site at the north corner of the town fortification. The goals of each project are seen in the following outline.

*This chapter was written before it was learned that funds earmarked for archeology in 1972-1974 had been spent for other purposes.

may be used in this area, but primarily this will be a hand excavation project. Once the plowed soil zone is stripped the cellar and features will be revealed and plotted with excavation then proceeding into the cellar itself to recover artifacts and reveal more of the details of this feature which formed an important position in regard to the 1776 anti-Cherokee fort and the 1780 British fort. Again, as with the jail, stabilization of walls, perhaps, to be found inside the cellar, drains installed, protective fencing, etc., all will depend on the nature of the discoveries and will need to be taken care of before many months after the completion of the archeology. Ideally, the stabilization should proceed immediately following the archeology, but experience at Ninety Six at Holmes' Fort has illustrated that this procedure is not being followed in terms of planning or execution. Hopefully, this situation can be remedied and development plans kept in line with the archeological discoveries.

The 1776 Fort, the 1780 British Fort, and the Town of Ninety Six

Exploratory excavations to the west of the Charleston Road on the site of the town of Ninety Six in the summer of 1971 revealed the two-bastioned stockade fort built in 1776 to protect against the Cherokee Indians who fell on the frontier settlements at that time. Also revealed here were the major fortification ditches dug under the direction of Colonel John Harris Cruger utilizing the already standing 1776 stockade he found on the site when he

arrived in 1780. Inside the area of these ditches and trenches were the houses of the town of Ninety Six. The goal of the crew working in this area would be to reveal through complete stripping of the plowed soil zone (and here machines can be used effectively) any features such as cellars, footings, pits, etc., as well as the fortification features. The 1780 fortification ditch would be opened and the accompanying parapet roughly positioned as the soil from the ditch was examined for artifacts. The palisade trench for the 1776 fort would be sectioned in several places and samples of the contents taken, photographs and drawings made, etc. Sodding and other stabilization-interpretation would have to be undertaken following the archeological work so as to replace the palisades and to protect the embankments.

The Town of Ninety Six East of the Charleston Road

Exploratory excavation has revealed a palisade built in 1776 and utilized by the British in 1780 paralleling the Charleston Road and enclosing the houses shown on the early maps of the town. The archeological crew here would concentrate on stripping as much of the area between the Charleston Road and the palisade as possible and locating the features, cellars, footings, pits, etc., that would date from the period of 1767 when the town was begun in 1781 when it was burned when the British evacuated the town and fortifications. There are many large pine trees in this area, and an effort will be made to avoid cutting these if at all possible,

but when one occurs directly over a cellar, it would be cut down and the cellar outline plotted and prepared for excavation. The number of features discovered in this area would determine the extent to which they could be excavated, but a determined effort would be made to examine as many of these features as possible during the two month project. The area of the unexplored bastion for the 1780 British fort would be stripped so as to reveal this bastion, and further work would be done toward the east to reveal more details of the fortification features here. The degree to which the fortification ditches here can be gone into will depend upon how many cellar holes are encountered to be excavated. If a large number of time-consuming features are found in this area, some will necessarily have to await further work at a later time. No machines can be used in this area because of the number of trees that we will attempt to save to insure the park atmosphere that could well make this area one of the most attractive on the site. The palisade trenches will be marked after archeologically being located through the positioning of posts at various intervals, such as was done with the trenches at the Williamson-Holmes' Fort area. This will allow the interpretive palisade to be constructed in the exact position of the original fort stockade.

The Stabilization-Interpretation Project at the Williamson-Holmes' Fort Site

This project is outlined in a separate proposal, and if funds are made available and contracts signed with contractors who will

be carrying out this work, then the supervision of the stabilization can be carried out by the archeologist through the contractor at the same time the above archeological projects are being conducted. If the posts and other materials are not available or if funds are not available at the time of this archeological work, then the supervision cannot be as conveniently correlated.*

Camp Logistics

It is anticipated that the field camp will be set up on the site at Ninety Six with the Star Fort Commission assisting in the installation of the power and water facilities since these will be used on the site long after the archeological work is completed.

The following personnel will be anticipated for the above expedition.

Archeologist:	Stanley South
Assistant Archeologist:	Lloyd Chapman
Data Recording Archeologist:	Richard Polhemus
Logistics Chief:	Mike Hartley
Cook:	Mattie Mae Carroll
Transit Assistant:	John Jameson
Crew Chief:	Kathy Deagan
	Alan Westover
	Raymond Willis
	Steven Abney

Crew: (15 members) Students of Anthropology at Wilmington College, Ohio, to receive grades for their work through an agreement worked out between officials at Wilmington College and the University of South Carolina.**

*No funds for archeology or interpretive stabilization are now available.

**These students had paid tuition to attend the Ninety Six expedition as crewmen, and they, along with the other personnel listed here, had to be notified of the last minute discovery that no funds were available for archeology at Ninety Six.

The cost of each of the four archeological projects is seen to be over \$4,000 each plus the base expedition cost for two months of \$9,000. If these four projects are stretched into four seasons, the base cost must be added each season resulting in a total project cost of \$17,000 plus \$36,000 base cost for a total of \$53,000. However, if the four projects are carried out in one expedition as outlined in this proposal, the cost is \$18,000 plus the base of \$9,000 or a total of \$27,000. If the \$18,000 stabilization project at Holmes' Fort is undertaken at the same time as the four archeological projects, the cost will be that shown on the estimated budget of \$45,000.

If the archeological work outlined in this proposal can be carried out this season, the remaining work will be concentrated on the site of Gouedy's Trading Post and Fort Ninety Six in 1973 and on the Star Fort and adjoining features in 1974 and 1975.

ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR THE 1972 ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION
TO NINETY SIX

Assistant Archeologist	(15 wks.)	\$ 1,875.00
Logistics Chief	(8 wks.)	960.00
Laboratory Assistants	(6 mos.)	1,245.00
Cook	(8 wks.)	640.00
Fringe benefits (FICA, etc.) @ 5.2%		245.00
Per diem for archeologist and assistants		1,120.00
Machine rental		1,000.00
Supplies		1,000.00
Travel		500.00
Report, printing maps, Xerox copies, etc.		<u>500.00</u>

Sub-total \$ 9,085.00

Labor

Williamson-Holmes Stabilization Project	Sub-total	18,041.00
The Fortified Jail Project-Crew Chief		\$ 720.00
(6 crew members)		3,600.00
The Blockhouse Project-Crew Chief		720.00
(6 crew members)		3,600.00
The 1776 Fort, British Fort, and 1/2 of the town-Chief		720.00
(6 crew members)		3,600.00
The Town of Ninety Six East of Charleston Road-Chief		720.00
(6 crew members)		3,600.00
Fringe benefits (FICA, etc.) @ 5.2%		<u>899.00</u>

Sub-total 18,179.00

Grand Total \$ 45,305.00

INSTITUTE BUDGET
(Contributions of Services and In-Kind Contributions)

Archeologist-in-Charge (South) (2 months in the field and 7 months in the office)	\$12,000.00
Recording Archeologist (Polhemus) (2 months in the field and 2 months in the laboratory)	1,530.00
Other staff time (secretarial, records, etc.)	1,000.00
Photographer	500.00
Field equipment as available from the Institute	1,500.00
Laboratory equipment and facilities of the Institute	2,500.00
Consultation and planning time provided by Stephenson and others of the staff.	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total	<u><u>\$20,030.00</u></u>

THE ARCHEOLOGICAL AND INTERPRETIVE PROPOSAL FOR THE KOSCIUSKO
TUNNEL AT THE STAR FORT AT NINETY SIX

The tunnel dug by Count Kosciusko in 1781 in order to blow up the Star Fort at Ninety Six is still standing open. The siege of Ninety Six was lifted by General Nathaniel Greene before the tunnel could be exploded so it has remained virtually intact for almost 200 years. The tunnel has collapsed in a central junction area where the three arms of the tunnel come together. The collapsed area leaves access to the tunnel for vandalism and exploration by children and the curious. Because of this, it is imperative that something be done soon as a safety measure and to preserve this rare relic from further damage and to interpret it to the public as an exhibit. This report is designed to outline for the Star Fort Historical Commission the steps necessary to effect this goal.

The tunnel should be archeologically investigated to remove any remaining relics of the period of the Revolution that may lie beneath the soil washed into the tunnel since it was abandoned by Nathaniel Greene's men. This can best be accomplished by removal of the large amount of soil from in front of the three tunnel openings by use of a backhoe supervised by the archeologist. With this done the tunnels can be excavated. Once this is accomplished the tunnel will be wide open for access by any curious person. This would be a very critical time during which vandalism and other damage from water, etc., could take place. Therefore, the protective-interpretive measures should already be planned for, and

contracted for, before the archeology is begun so that work on such construction can begin immediately upon notification of the contractor that the archeological work is completed. The following is an outline of the means proposed by the archeologist for protecting and interpreting the historic tunnel.

The visitor viewing the Kosciusko tunnel will enter by means of steps leading down into an underground exhibit hall with only the entrance and exit openings seen above ground. The exhibit hall will be 30 feet long and 10 feet wide and will be well lit for safety (Fig. 20). As the visitor enters the exhibit hall, he will look through a window into the opening of the south arm of Kosciusko's tunnel in which small pinlights have been positioned to best reveal the appearance of the historic tunnel. There will then be a row of exhibit cases in which the story of the tunnel and its role in the siege of Ninety Six will be told. At the end of the exhibits, there will be another window through which the east arm of the tunnel will be viewed, and to the left, will be the opening of the north tunnel seen through a third window. The visitor will then exit by means of another set of steps.

This arrangement will allow for the maximum protection of the historic tunnel and will allow the tunnel and exhibit hall to be locked securely when the site is not open to the public. This subterranean interpretive exhibit hall will be covered with sod producing no obstrusive projection above ground (Fig. 20). The visitor will have the impression of actually going down into the

original tunnel and will indeed be in a tunnel where the original once was located.

Needless to say this type exhibit hall will have to be very securely constructed against possible ground water as well as having provisions for drainage of water that may seep into the tunnels and need to be drained off to prevent its accumulation against the subterranean wall of the exhibit hall. Before the exhibit hall is constructed, a drainage ditch will need to be dug below the lowest point of the floor so as to drain away any water that may accidentally find its way into the chamber or enter through the stairwells. All of these problems will have to be faced and met by the architect who is commissioned to draft the contractor's plans for the construction of the hall with all details of construction carefully spelled out and specified; such as, the type of waterproofing material needed to prevent ground water seepage, the means of protecting the mouths of the three tunnels from receiving seepage water from the surface, the best means of installing the electric wiring for the tunnels, etc.

The architect's plans should be completed and approved first, then contract bids received and a contract awarded to a contractor for construction of the exhibit hall. Then when these steps are taken, the archeologist can begin his work of excavating the hole for the exhibit hall and his excavation of the tunnels. When his work is completed the contractor will then be notified according * to his contract, and work on construction of the exhibit hall

should begin immediately. The archeologist must complete his work on schedule in order to permit the contractor to have a reasonable working schedule. Only by this means can the historic tunnel be protected from damage through the large number of visitors who will be attracted to the site to view the excavation being carried out by the archeologist on the tunnel. Security measures at this time will need to be at the maximum to prevent trespassing on the site. At the time the archeologist opens the area to begin the excavation, the contractor could be digging the ditch and installing the drain to prevent water from standing in the hole in times of rain. If this is done there will be no danger of flooding from rain water during the excavation by the archeologist.

The Archeological Project at the Kosciusko Tunnel

When the architect's plans have been approved by the archeologist and the Star Fort Historical Commission and the contract has been let to the contractor, the archeology can begin on the tunnel. As has been mentioned above, the first step is to open the collapsed section of the tunnel by using back hoes to excavate the hole for the construction of the exhibit hall as specified by the architect. The archeologist can then enter the three tunnel openings from this deep hole and remove the accumulation of soil from the tunnels, all the while recording the information that is revealed. The tunnels should not be allowed to stand open longer than absolutely necessary during this period before construction of the exhibit hall is begun so all three tunnels should be excavated at the same time.

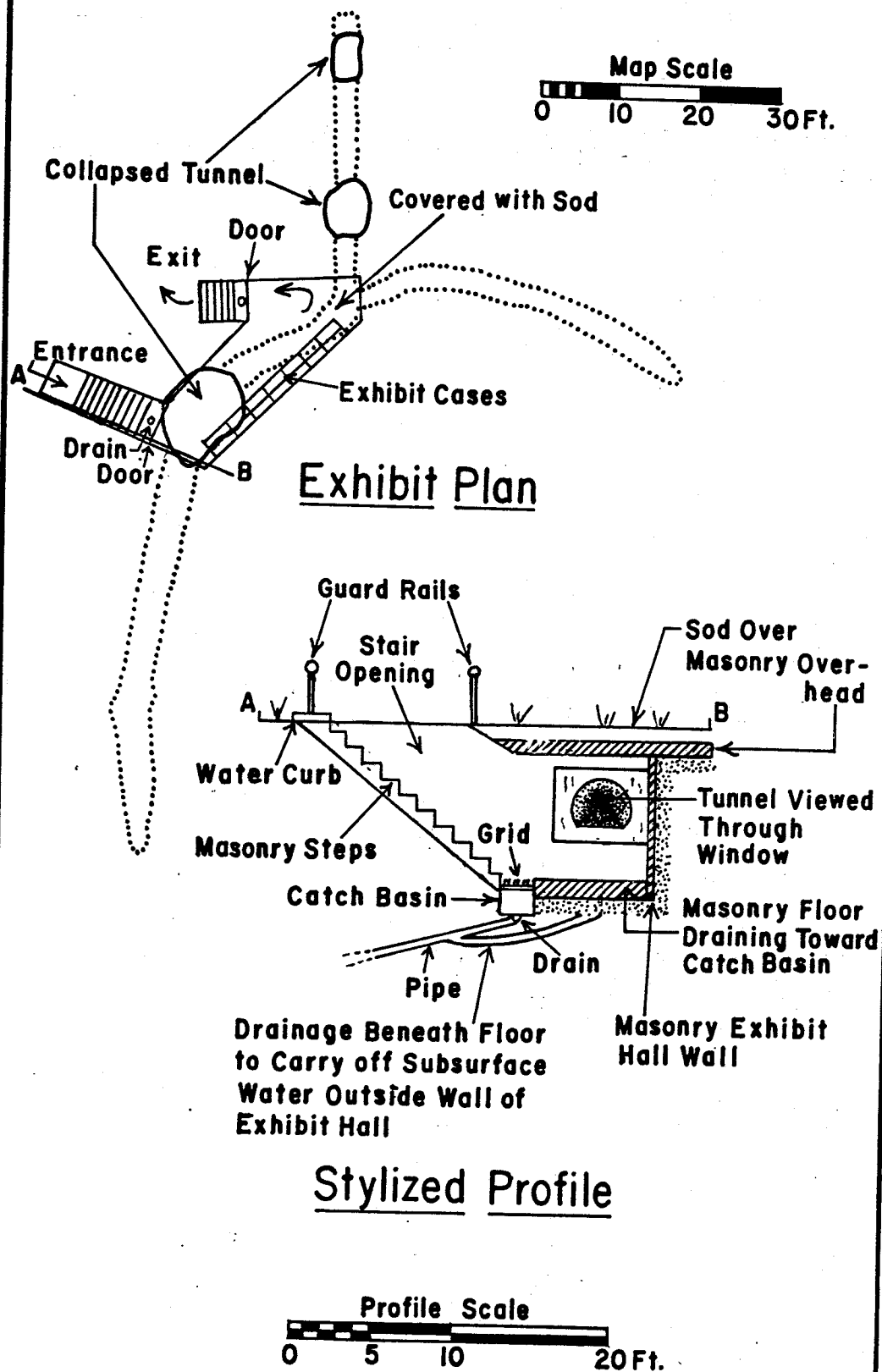
To do this work a crew of two men in each tunnel is planned under supervision of a crew chief. One month should be sufficient time to record the information and remove the data from this feature. Photographs and drawings will be made throughout the project to completely record the process.

Cost Estimate for the Archeological Work at the Kosciusko Tunnel

Crew Chief (one month)	\$ 480.00
Six Crewmen	1,800.00
Machine Rental	300.00
	<u>\$2,580.00</u>

This estimate is based on the assumption that an expedition is already in the field at Ninety Six with the base expedition cost taken care of in a separate budget. The cost of the construction of the exhibit hall will depend entirely on the specifications of the architect and the contractor's agreement with the Star Fort Historical Commission. If the project is not carried out when an expedition is already at Ninety Six, the archeological base cost for the crew chief and six-man crew must be added to the above figures resulting in the archeological project costing \$5000., twice as much. It would also not be wise to postpone the entire project until the 1973 season for to do so exposes the tunnel to possible damage by vandals and the elements. However, the entrance could be backfilled and partially secured in this manner against access if it became necessary due to lack of funds.*

* Since this was written it was learned that no funds for archeology or site development are available. The primary concern, however, is that the Commission obtain the property on which the tunnel and the Star Fort are located.



Suggested Plan and Profile of the Exhibit Hall for Kosciusko's Tunnel.

Figure 20

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